GENERAL ZOOLOGY,

or

SYSTEMATIC NATURAL HISTORY

by

GEORGE SHAW, M.D. F.R.S. &c.

WITH PLATES

from the first Authorities and most select specimens

Engraved principally by

Mrs GRIFFITH.

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GENERAL ZOOLOG

VOLUME VII.—PART I.

BIRDS.

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SKELETON OF FALCO PALUMBARIUS
OR GOSHAWK

XIII

BIRDS.

HAVING in the course of my Zoological Lectures, given a slight general description of Birds, I prefix it, without any material alteration, to the present volume.

In Birds the skeleton or bony frame of the animal is, in general, of a lighter nature than in Quadrupeds, and is calculated for the power of flight: the spine or back bone is immoveable, but the neck lengthened and flexible: the breast-bone very large, with a prominent keel down the middle, and formed for the attachment of very strong muscles: the bones of the wings are analogous to those of the fore-legs in quadrupeds, but the termination is in three joints or fingers only, of which the exterior one is very short. What are commonly called the legs are analogous to the hind-legs in quadrupeds, and they terminate, in general, in four toes, three of

which are commonly directed forwards, and one backwards; but in some birds there are only two toes, and in some only three. All the bones in birds are much lighter, or furnished with a larger cavity than in quadrupeds.

With respect to the definition of a Bird, as absolutely distinguished from all other animals, it would be sufficient to say, according to the old mode, that a Bird is a two-footed, feathered animal. The power of flight need not enter into the definition; for there are many birds which are perfectly destitute of the power of flight; as the Ostrich, the Cassowary, all the Penguins, and some other birds. The feathers with which birds are covered are analogous in their nature to the hair of quadrupeds, being composed of a similar substance appearing in a dissimilar form. Beneath or under the common feathers or general plumage the skin in birds is immediately covered with a much finer or softer feathery substance, called down. The external or common feathers are called by different names on different parts of the animal. The longest of the wing-feathers, which are generally ten in number in each

wing, are called the first or great quills, (in the Linnæan phrase *remiges primores*, as being the chief oars or guiders as it were.) The feathers constituting the middle part of the wing are called the secondaries or second quills, (*remiges secundarii* of Linnæus,) and are more numerous than the first: the feathers descending along each side of the back are called the scapular feathers: the small feathers covering the shoulders are called the smaller wing-coverts, (*tectrices minores*:) the next series to these are called the larger wing-coverts, (*tectrices secundariæ* or majores,) and at the edge of the shoulder are a few rather strong and slightly lengthened feathers, constituting what is called the false or spurious wing; the alula or alulet of some ornithologists. The tail, in most birds, consists of twelve feathers; in some of ten only; and in some others of eighteen, twenty, or twenty-four. Sometimes on each side the tail, or above it, at the lower part of the back, are placed several very long feathers of a different structure from the rest: these have been called the hypochondrial and uropygial feathers. The above are the principal distributions of the feathers on a bird.

With respect to the particular shape of the feathers themselves, they vary greatly in the different tribes.

The particulars most important in the comparative anatomy of birds are these. The heart is furnished with two cavities, or, in the language of anatomists, is bilocular, and the general course of the circulation is carried on as in quadrupeds. The lungs are very large, affixed to the back part of the cavity of the breast, and are furnished with several external orifices, by which the air they contain is at pleasure communicated to other parts of the frame. The throat, after passing down to a certain distance, dilates into a large membranaceous bag, answering to the stomach in quadrupeds: it is called the crop, and its great use is to soften the food taken into it, in order to prepare it for passing into another stronger receptacle called the gizzard: this, which may be considered as a more powerful stomach than the former, consists of two very strong muscles, lined and covered with a stout tendinous coat, and furrowed on the inside: in this receptacle the food is completely ground, and reduced to a pulp: in

the predaceous birds or *Accipitres* the gizzard is wanting; the stomach being more allied to that of quadrupeds.

Birds, as every one knows, are oviparous animals, always producing eggs, from which the young are afterwards excluded. The process of the young in the egg, from the time of its first production to that of its complete formation, is extremely curious and interesting, and may be found detailed with sufficient exactness in the works of Malpighi, Buffon, Monro, and others. I shall only observe on this subject, that the first appearance of the young, as an organized body, begins to be visible in six hours after the egg has been placed in a proper degree of heat; and a particular highly worthy of attention is, that the chick or young bird, when arrived at its full size, and ready for hatching, is by Nature provided with a small, hard, calcareous protuberance at the point or tip of the bill, by which it is enabled the more readily to break the shell, and which falls off some hours after hatching. So careful has Nature been, and so accurately has every circumstance attending the process been foreseen and provided for!

Birds are divided by Linnæus into six Orders or Assortments, viz.

1. *Accipitres* or Predacious Birds, such as Vultures, Eagles, Hawks, Owls, and some others.

2. *Picæ* or Pies, containing all the birds of the Crow and Jay kind, the Parrots, the Woodpeckers, the Kingfishers, and a great variety of others.

3. *Passeres* or Passerine Birds, comprising the Pigeons, the Thrushes, the Larks, and all the Finches or small-birds in general, either with thick or slender bills.

4. *Gallinæ* or Gallinaceous Birds, or such as are more or less allied to the common domestic Fowl, and consequently containing the Pheasant and Partridge tribe, the Peacock, Turkey, and several other birds.

5. *Grallæ* or Waders, consisting of all the Heron tribe, the Curlews, the Plovers, and other numerous tribes which have lengthened legs, and chiefly frequent watery situations.

6. *Anseres* or Web-footed Birds, as the Swan, Goose, and Duck tribe, the Gulls, the Penguins, and many others.

Out of these six Linnæan Orders some ornithologists have instituted a few others, in

order to give a greater degree of clearness and precision to the arrangement of birds; but they cannot be considered as absolutely necessary. Thus the Pigeons have been sometimes considered as properly forming a distinct order of birds, under the title of *Columbæ* or the Columbine Birds, instead of being ranked among the Passeres of Linnæus; and the Ostrich, Cassowary, and Dodo have been supposed to constitute an order called the *Struthious* Order, instead of ranking either among the *Grallæ* or *Gallinæ* of Linnæus.

In the course of the present publication, though the general tenor of the Linnæan and Lathamian divisions will be pursued, yet several variations and transpositions will occasionally take place.

N. B. Wherever a marked line occurs on the plates, it signifies the twelfth part of the length of the bird.

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BIRDS.

ORDER

ACCIPITRES.

VULTUR. VULTURE.

Generic Character.

Rostrum rectum, apice aduncum, basi cute tectum.	*Bill* strait, hooked at the tip, and covered at the base by a cere or skin.
Caput plerisque impenne, antice nuda cute.	*Head*, in most species, bare of feathers, and covered in front by a naked skin.
Lingua carnosa, sæpius bifida.	*Tongue* fleshy, and generally bifid.
Collum retractile.	*Neck* retractile.
Pedes validi, unguibus modice incurvatis.	*Feet* strong, with moderately crooked claws.

THE Vultures, in general, differ from the Eagles in being of a heavier or less active nature, and in their mode of life; commonly preferring dead to living prey, and feeding on the most putrid substances. They are much more common in warm than in cold climates, and may be considered as a

kind of scavengers, wisely appointed by Providence, for clearing away the noxious remains of animal matter.

CONDOR VULTURE.

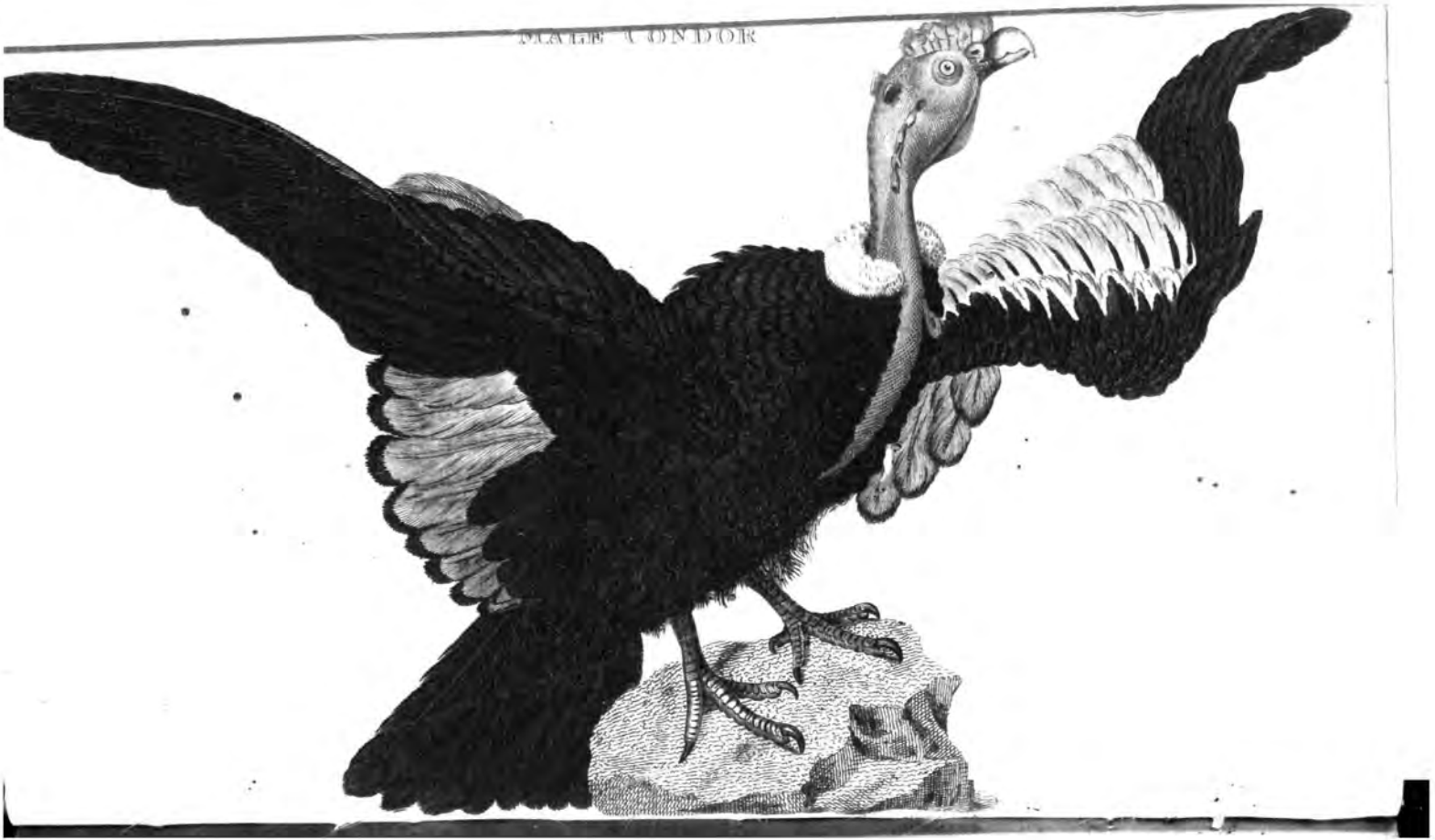
Vultur Condor. *V. niger, remigibus secundariis albis, caruncula verticali compressa, gula nuda rubra, collo utrinque carunculato. Museum Leverianum. No. 6, p. 1.*

Black Vulture, with the shorter wing-feathers white; the head furnished with an upright, compressed, fleshy crest or comb; the throat naked and red; the neck carunculated on each side.

Vultur Magellanicus. } *Museum Leverianum. No. 1. p. 1.*
Magellanic Vulture. }

Vultur Gryphus. *V. maximus, caruncula verticali longitudine capitis, gula nuda. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

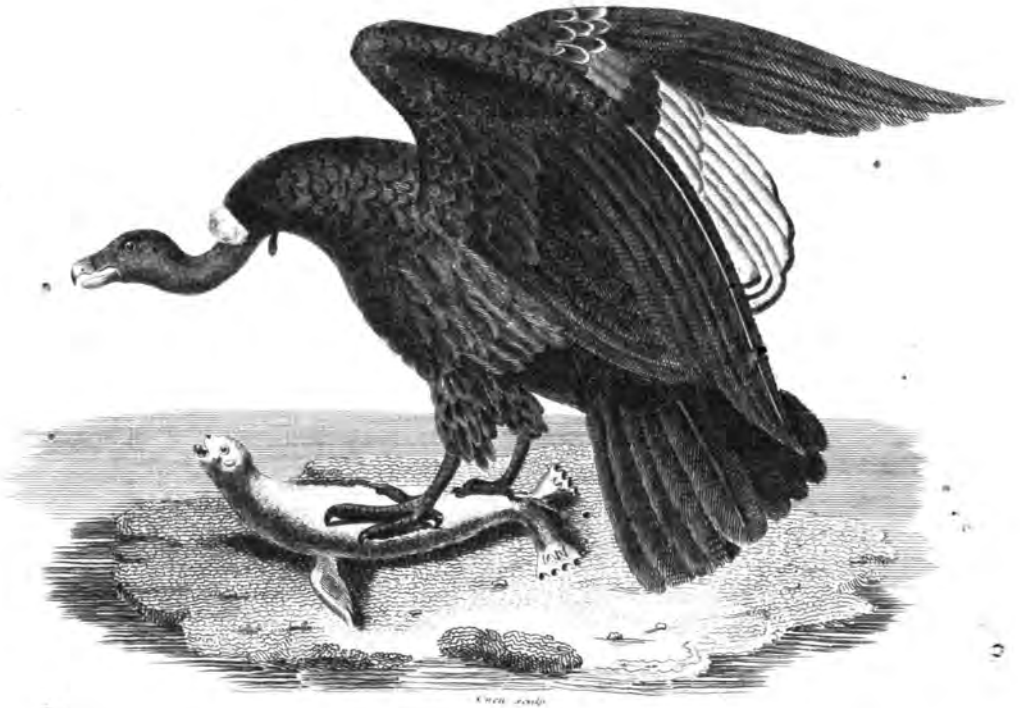
The chief of the Vulture tribe, if the descriptions given by those who have seen the full-grown bird in its native regions may be depended upon, is undoubtedly the Condor. This bird is a native of many parts of South America, but is supposed to be more frequently seen in Peru than elsewhere. Some authors have affirmed that it is capable of snatching up and carrying off boys of ten years of age and upwards, and that a pair of these destroyers in concert will attack a heifer in the midst of a field, and tear it in pieces with the most perfect ease. In the Phil. Trans. vol. 18, p. 61, is a description of the quills of a bird of this kind which was shot in Chili, and which bird measured sixteen



feet when the wings were extended. The bird is said to have been coloured black and white like a magpie, and furnished with a sharp, hard crest or comb on the head. Other accounts add that the throat is naked, and of a red colour, and that the neck is surrounded by a white ruff or tippet. The Count de Buffon imagines that these Vultures are not peculiar to America, but that they are sometimes found in Europe, and seems inclined to think that the species called by the Germans Lammergeyer may be the same bird; but this seems now to be clearly determined in the negative; the Lammer-geyer of the Germans being no other than the Vultur barbatus of Linnæus. The Leverian Museum was in possession of a pair of these noble birds, both of which were brought, at different periods, from the straits of Magellan. Both these specimens were in the most perfect preservation, and were supposed to be male and female. Both have been described by myself in the work entitled Museum Leverianum; the male under its established title of V. Gryphus or Condor; and the supposed female under that of V. Magellanicus or Magellanic Vulture, it having been doubtful at that time whether it was really the Gryphus of Linnæus. The subsequent introduction of the male bird removed all uncertainty. I shall here repeat my former description of these birds.

Male. This magnificent specimen was brought from the Magellanic coasts by Captain Middleton of the Royal Navy, and was soon afterwards introduced into the Leverian Museum.

By this highly interesting specimen we are enabled to ascertain with precision many particulars relative to the appearance of the bird which have hitherto escaped observation. Of these one of the most remarkable is a kind of gular pouch or large dilated skin, of a blueish colour, proceeding from the base of the lower mandible, and reaching to some distance down the neck. On each side of the neck is also situated a row or series of flat, carneous, semicircular, or ear-shaped flaps or appendages, to the number of seven on each side, and which gradually decrease in size as they descend; being so disposed as to lap slightly over each other. The whole neck and breast are of a red colour, and perfectly bare of feathers; being only coated here and there with a few straggling filaments of blackish hair or coarse down. The colour of the lateral wattles or carunculæ inclines to blueish. The crest or comb on the head is large, upright, thick at the base, sharpened on its edge, and not entirely even in its outline, but somewhat sinuated, sinking slightly in the middle, and rising higher on the back part: it is smooth, and irregularly convex on the sides, and in its texture or substance not greatly dissimilar to that of the V. Papa of Linnæus, or King Vulture. At a slight distance behind this, on each side, is situated a much smaller, semi-oval nuchal crest, of a similar substance, and beset with coarse down. The colour of the crest is blackish, slightly inclining to red and blue in some parts. Towards the lower part of the neck is a pendent pear-



shaped tubercle: the lower part of the neck is surrounded by a collar of milk-white down or fine plumes representing exactly a tippet of white fur. The extent of the bird, from wing's end to wing's end was said to be more than twelve feet when measured immediately after it was shot*.

This specimen affords an opportunity of correcting a very important error in the descriptions of the Condor given by general observers, who seem to have described it from a cursory view, either from the living bird when seated at some distance with its wings closed, or from too inattentive a survey of a dead specimen. Such descriptions tell us that the back of the bird is white, which on the contrary, is coal-black; an error most evidently owing to having seen the bird with the wings closed over the back, so that the white secondaries covered it from view. This erroneous description is copied by Dr. Gmelin, in his new edition of the Systema Naturæ of Linnæus, from Molina, who has given a similar one himself. Molina's description seems also to have misled Mr. Latham, who in his Index Ornithologicus has described the Condor as having the back white instead of black. I must add that in these descriptions the tail is expressly said to be small, which on the contrary, is rather large in proportion to the bird.

Female? This, like the former, was brought from

* It was indeed said by some who had seen it killed to have measured fourteen feet, but this I always considered as a mistake.

the straits of Magellan by Captain Middleton, and the circumstance of its not having the least appearance of a comb on the head, together with some other particulars incline me to suppose it either a young bird or a female. The extent of its wings from tip to tip is not far short of ten feet: the beak is of a dark lead-colour, and grows gradually whitish towards the tip: the head and neck are destitute of feathers, but are covered with a short, straggling sort of hairy down: the top of the head inclines to a dark colour, but the rest of the neck is paler, and I make no doubt but that in the living bird it was of a reddish colour. Towards the lower part of the neck, where it joins the shoulders, is a ruff or circle of white downy feathers, exactly resembling the appearance of rabbits' fur; and beneath the breast is a considerable bare space: all the rest of the bird is black, except the shorter or secondary wing-feathers, which are white with black tips: the legs and feet are blackish, very strong, but the claws not much incurvated: the tail even at the end, and very slightly rounded at the sides. On comparing the remiges or wing-feathers of this bird with some of those which were brought over by Mr. Byron as those of the real Condor, I found them to be exactly similar except in size.

I cannot but add, that in both the above specimens the physiognomy of this bold and formidable Vulture is not of a ferocious cast, but rather exhibits an appearance almost bordering on mildness.

MALE CONDOR *from Humboldt*

1808 Sept.r London Published by G.Kearsley Fleet Street.

In the Index Ornitholgicus of Mr. Latham it is stated that the Female Condor differs from the Male in being of a brown colour instead of black; that it is larger than the male, and has no ruff or collar round the neck. If this statement be correct, it is evident that the individual above described must rather be considered as a young or unadvanced specimen of the Male bird, unless we rather consider it as a distinct species, in which case the name of Vultur Magellanicus by which it was at first described in the Museum Leverianum may be still retained; but on the subject of the Condor, we wait with impatience the promised publication of the remaining volumes of Mr. Humboldt's interesting travels, in which an accurate history and representation of this bird may doubtless be expected.

Since the above was written I have had the satisfaction of seeing Monsieur Humboldt's account of the Condor, and find that, from the general tenor of his description and observations, little need be added to what I have before stated. Monsieur Humboldt however is inclined to deduct something from the general statements which have been given of the size of this bird, having himself seen no specimens which have exceeded three feet three inches in length, and eight feet nine inches in extent from wing's end to wing's end. Monsieur Humboldt however admits that the Condor may

sometimes be supposed to arrive at a much greater magnitude, and to measure in extent of wings eleven or twelve feet. He informs us that its usual residence is among lofty rocks on the region of the Andes just below the boundaries of perpetual snow, and that it may be considered as a co-inhabitant with the Guanaco. It is a bird of a solitary nature, and it is a rare circumstance to see more than three or four together. When seated on the point of a rock, and viewed from below, its form being then contrasted with the clear sky above, it appears considerably larger than it really is; and this, according to Monsieur Humboldt, may have been one cause of the exaggerated accounts of the earlier describers. The prevailing colour of the Condor is generally a deep raven-grey, but sometimes black: the crest, which is fleshy, or rather cartilaginous, occupies the top of the head and about a fourth part of the beak, and is entirely wanting in the female: the skin of the neck is dilated under the throat into a gular caruncle or wattle, and along or down the sides of the neck runs a wrinkled skinny stripe or band, the processes of which are variously moveable at the pleasure of the animal. The young Condor is entirely naked of feathers, being covered, for several months, with a fine whitish down, but which is so full or thick as to give the young birds the appearance of being almost as large as the old ones. At the age of two years they have no black plumage, but only tawny brown, and the female during this

period has no collar round the bottom of the neck. Nothing can exceed the sagacity with which the Condor perceives the scent of its prey at a distance, or the boldness with which it flies down to seize it. It preys both on dead and living animals, and two birds will seize on a heifer, and begin their work of destruction by picking the eyes and tearing the tongue out.

A method of taking Condors alive is often practised in Peru and Quito, and is as follows, viz. A cow or horse is killed; and in a little time the scent of the carcase attracts the Condors, which are suddenly seen in numbers in places where no one would suppose they existed. They always begin with the eyes and tongue, and then proceed to devour the intestines, &c. When they are well sated, they are too heavy and indolent to fly, and the Indians take them easily with nooses. When thus taken alive, the Condor is dull and timid for the first hour, and then becomes extremely ferocious. Monsieur Humboldt had one in his possession for some days, which it was dangerous to approach. The Condor is extremely tenacious of life, and will survive for a long time such wounds as might be supposed to prove immediately fatal; and such is the fullness of its plumage that it has the power of resisting or repelling the force of a ball fired at it from a gun. This indeed is not peculiar to the Condor, but has been observed in some other well-feathered and thick-skinned birds, particularly those of the order *Anseres*.

The elegant figure of the Condor given by Monsieur Humboldt is copied into the present work, in order that nothing might be wanting for as full an elucidation of this interesting species as could be obtained from modern authors. The reader will observe that the figures of the preserved specimen from the Leverian Museum leave no room to doubt the identity of the bird. With respect to the measures attributed by the preparer of those specimens, I have hinted above that I cannot but think them something, though perhaps not very much exaggerated. The unfortunate dispersion of that celebrated collection, which had so long done honour to England, makes it impossible to ascertain the size by fresh admeasurement. It is said that both specimens were purchased for the Emperor of Austria, and I recommend their more complete investigation to the naturalists of Vienna.

CALIFORNIAN VULTURE.

Vultur Californianus. *V. niger, rostro albido, capite colloque denudatis pallidis, torquis pectorisque plumis lanceolatis.*

Black Vulture, with whitish beak; the head and neck unfeathered and of a pale colour; the plumes of the collar and breast lanceolate. *Naturalist's Miscellany, vol. 9. pl. 301.*

This species was first described by myself in the 9th volume of the Naturalist's Miscellany. It is

one of the largest of the genus, and even approaches nearly to the size of the Condor. Its colour is black, but the tips of the last or interior secondary remiges which lap over the back are whitish, especially on the interior edge: the covert-feathers of the wings are of a brownish tinge towards their edges: the head and neck are naked, or very sparingly sprinkled in some parts with a kind of setaceous down: the colour of the neck is reddish, inclining to blueish on each side: the head is blackish at the top and back part, as well as round the beak, which extremely resembles that of the Condor in shape and colour, and is rather obtuse at the extremity. The head is entirely void of any carunculated appearance, but the occiput or back part is marked by a dark patch or zone which seems to rise a little above the surface. The lower part of the neck is surrounded by a ruff or wreath of lanceolate black plumes, the fibres of which have a kind of setaceous or horny appearance. The feathers of the breast, abdomen, and thighs are of the same structure and shape in proportion to their size. The legs and feet resemble those of the Condor, but the claws are much sharper, longer, and of a more curved form. The wings are long: the tail large and of a squarish shape; the legs and claws black. It may be added that the under surface of the shafts of the wing-feathers are of the same complexion with those of the Condor, viz. whitish, with numerous arrow-shaped transverse marks or bars.

This Vulture was brought over by Mr. Menzies during his expedition with Captain Vancouver, from the coast of California, and is now in the British Museum.

BEARDED VULTURE.

Vultur barbatus. *V. fusco-nigricans, subtus subfulvus, capite colloque plumis lanceolatis albidis, rostro subtus barbato.*

Blackish-brown Vulture, subfulvous beneath, with the head and neck covered by lanceolate whitish plumes, and the bill bearded beneath.

Vultur barbatus. *V. albidus, dorso fusco, gula barbata, rostro incarnato, capite linea nigra cincto. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Bearded Vulture. *Edwards. pl.* 106.

Vultur barbarus. } *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Vultur barbatus. }

This is one of the largest of the European Vultures, and is principally observed among the Alps of Swisserland, where it is known by the name of Lammer-Geyer or Lamb-Vulture, though this title seems not to be absolutely confined to the present species, but to be occasionally applied to any large predaceous bird. This Vulture is figured and slightly described in the works of Gesner, under the title of *V. aureus**. It is superior in size to the Golden Eagle, and is generally of a dark or blackish brown colour above, and pale rufous beneath; but in this respect it occasionally

* Gesn. av. p. 748.

BEARDED VULTURE
from Edwards

varies, being sometimes nearly white beneath, or of a pale chesnut-colour. The head and neck are not bare, but covered with narrow or slender plumes of a whitish colour; and beneath the base of the lower mandible is situated a large, lengthened and pointed tuft of black hairs or very slender setaceous plumes, from which circumstance the name of Bearded Vulture is particularly applied to the present species.

Since the time of Gesner this Vulture seems to have been but indistinctly known to naturalists till the publication of the third volume of Edwards's ornithological work, in which it is admirably figured, and described in the plain and simple style of that honest observer, whose accuracy may often be more safely depended upon than the more ornamented narratives of superior writers. "This bird (says Edwards) is of the bigness of an Eagle: broad-ways it measures seven feet and a half, the wings being extended; from bill-point to tail-end it measures three feet four inches; from bill-point to the end of the claws but two feet eight inches. The wing when closed measures two feet four inches; the prime quills are more than twenty-three inches long. The bill is of a purple flesh-colour, darker towards the point than at the base: from its point to the angle of the mouth it measures four inches: it extends itself in length a little before it bends into a hook, which is one of the principal distinctions between the Eagle and the Vulture kind; the Eagle's bill always begins to be arched at its base, and continues so to its point.

From the root of the lower mandible of the bill it hath a remarkable tuft of black feathers, for which reason I have called it bearded: the mouth is blue within side: the eyes are placed just above the slits of the mouth; the circle round the eye is of bright yellow, and without that is another ci being a fine deep red sk n, that is firmly fixed on the ball of the eye: the sides and forepart of the head are black, which blackness encompasses the eyes and shews them to advantage: the nostrils are covered with stiff black feathers: from behind each eye extends a black line, which bends upwards and meets in the hinder part of the head: it hath also a dash of black from each corner of the mouth, which tends a little downward in the form of whiskers: the rest of the head, and the whole neck are covered with white feathers, short on the head, but long, loose, and pointed on the neck, like those on a cock's neck. The upper side, back, wings, and tail are of a dark colour between brown and black: the lesser covert-feathers of the wings have dashes of bright reddish-brown down their shafts, very narrow: the edges of the feathers on the whole upper side are something lighter than the other parts of the feathers: the greater feathers of the wings and tail have their shafts white: the middle feathers of the tail are something longer than the side feathers: the insides of the wings are coloured as they are without, except that the dashes do n the shafts of the covert feathers are larger and whiter. It hath a space under each wing covered only with white down, of the

bigness of a man's whole hand: the bottoms or roots of the feathers all over the bird are white: it hath also a very thick, soft, white down all over the body under its feathers. The under side, breast, belly, thighs, and coverts under the tail are white, a little tinctured with reddish-brown: the legs are covered with short, white, downy feathers, which are, when it perches, covered by the longer feathers of the thighs: the feet are of a lead-colour, the claws dusky, the middle and outer toes on each foot are joined by a strong skin."

The individual above-described by Edwards was brought, as he informs us, from Santa Cruz on the Coast of Barbary. It appears to be a native of many of the wilder regions both of Asia and Africa, and seems to be recorded by the celebrated Mr. Bruce under the name of *Nisser Werk**. Mr. Bruce's description affords a striking instance of its boldness and voracity. Mr. B. erroneously calls it an Eagle. His description runs as follows.

"He is called by the vulgar *Abou Duch'n*, or Father Long-Beard, which we may imagine was given him from the tuft of hair he has below his beak. I suppose him to be not only the largest of the Eagle kind, but surely one of the largest birds that flies. From wing to wing he was eight feet four inches. From the tip of his tail to the point of his beak, when dead, four feet seven inches. He weighed twenty-two pounds, and was very full of flesh. He seemed remarkably short in the legs,

* Bruce. Trav. append. p. 155. pl. opposite ditto.

being only four inches from the joining of the foot to where the leg joins the thigh, and from the joint of the thigh to the joining of his body six inches. The thickness of his thigh was little less than four inches; it was extremely muscular, and covered with flesh. His middle claw was about two inches and a half long, not very sharp at the point, but extremely strong. From the root of the bill to the point was three inches and a quarter, and one inch and three quarters in breadth at the root. A forked brush of strong hair, divided at the point into two, proceeded from the cavity of his lower jaw at the beginning of his throat. He had the smallest eye I ever remember to have seen in a large bird, the aperture being scarcely half an inch. The crown of his head was bare or bald, so was the front where the bill and scull joined."

"This noble bird was not an object of any chace or pursuit, nor stood in need of any stratagem to bring him within our reach. Upon the highest top of the mountain Lamalmon, while my servants were refreshing themselves from that toilsome rugged ascent, and enjoying the pleasure of a most delightful climate, eating their dinner in the outer air, with several large dishes of boiled goats flesh before them, this enemy, as he turned out to be to them, appeared suddenly; he did not stoop rapidly from a height, but came flying slowly along the ground, and sat down close to the meat within the ring the men had made round it. A great shout, or rather cry of distress, called me to the

place. I saw the Eagle stand for a minute, as if to recollect himself, while the servants ran for their lances and shields: I walked up as nearly to him as I had time to do. His attention was fully fixed upon the flesh. I saw him put his foot into the pan where was a large piece in water prepared for boiling, but finding the smart which he had not expected, he withdrew it, and forsook the piece which he held. There were two large pieces, a leg and a shoulder, lying upon a wooden platter; into these he trussed both his claws, and carried them off, but I thought he looked wistfully at the large piece which remained in the warm water. Away he went slowly along the ground as he had come. The face of the cliff over which criminals are thrown, took him from our sight. The Mahometans that drove the asses, who had, as we have already observed, in the course of the journey, suffered much from the Hyæna, were much alarmed, and assured me of his return. My servants, on the other hand, very unwillingly expected him, and thought he had already more than his share. As I had myself a desire of more intimate acquaintance with him, I loaded a rifle-gun with ball, and sat down close to the platter by the meat. It was not many minutes before he came, and a prodigious shout was raised by my attendants, He is coming, he is coming, enough to have discouraged a less courageous animal. Whether he was not quite so hungry as at the first visit, or suspected something from my appearance, I know not, but he made a small turn, and sat down about ten

yards from me, the pan with the meat being between me and him. As the field was clear before me, and I did not know but his next move might bring him opposite to some of my people, and so that he might actually get the rest of the meat and make off, I shot him with the ball through the middle of his body about two inches below the wing, so that he lay down upon the grass without a single flutter. Upon laying hold of his monstrous carcase, I was not a little surprised at seeing my hands covered and tinged with a yellow powder or dust. Upon turning him upon his belly, and examining the feathers of his back, they produced a brown dust, the colour of the feathers there. This dust was not in small quantities, for, upon striking his breast, the yellow powder flew in fully greater quantity than from a hair-dresser's powder-puff. The feathers of the belly and breast, which were of a gold-colour, did not appear to have any thing extraordinary in their formation, but the large feathers in the shoulder and wings seemed apparently to be fine tubes, which upon pressure scattered this dust upon the finer part of the feather, but this was brown, the colour of the feathers of the back. Upon the sides of the wing, the ribs or hard part of the feather seemed to be bare, as if worn, or, I rather think, were renewing themselves, having before failed in their function."

There is little doubt but that this species is twice particularized in the Gmelinian edition of the Systema Naturæ of Linnæus under the names of *Vultur barbatus* and *Vultur barbarus*. In this the

Griffith sculp.

BEARDED VULTURE.

Gypaete des Alpes from Daudin

1808 Sept.r 1 London Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street

MONK VULTURE

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author has followed the example of some preceding writers, who have unnecessarily divided the casual varieties of this bird into distinct species. Mr. Latham in his *Index ornithologicus* has followed Gmelin in this separation of characters, but in the second Supplement to his Synopsis of Birds he has very properly united them under the name of the Bearded Vulture.

The Count de Buffon, apparently misled by the general accounts of its size and manners, erroneously supposes this bird to be the same with the Condor, which he therefore imagines to be common both to the old and new world. The Bearded Vulture is said to build in the inaccessible cavities of lofty rocks, and is sometimes observed to assemble in small flocks about the mountainous regions of the countries it inhabits.

MONK VULTURE.

Vultur Monachus. *V. fuscus, torque cervicali extensa, crista, occipitali plumosa.*
Brown Vulture, with lengthened ruff, and downy occipital crest.
V. Monachus. *V. vertice gibboso, corpore nigro. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Percnopteros, Gypaetos, &c. *Aldr. orn.* 1. *p.* 218.
Vautour, ou Grand Vautour. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 158.? *Pl. Enl.* 425.?
Cinereous Vulture. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 14.?
Arabian Vulture. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 8.
Crested black Vulture. *Edw. pl.* 290.

SEVERAL of the Vulture tribe, those more particularly which have a naked or downy neck, are

furnished towards the lower part with a kind of plumy ruff or collar, owing to a duplicature of the skin in that part, beset on its edges either with long, lanceolate plumes, or merely with a kind of long down, as in the Condor. The present species exhibits more strikingly than most others this particular conformation: the loose skin with its plumy ruff appearing in certain attitudes of the bird not unlike a monk's cowl thrown backward on the shoulders. This bird though it seems to have been known to Aldrovandus, appears to have been but little understood by succeeding ornithologists, and, like the Bearded Vulture above described, has been formed into two or three imaginary species by different authors. The description of Aldrovandus, probably from a young or small specimen, is as follows. From the tip of the bill to the end of the tail it was by measure three spans: the bill was long, but for the most part covered with a skin or membrane, so that about an inch only of the tip remained bare; the hooked end being small and slender: the head was bald or destitute of feathers to the hind part, so that the feathers standing up behind the crown resembled a monk's hood put back and leaning on his neck when he goes with his head uncovered. The colour of almost all the feathers of the whole body was dusky, inclining to dark chesnut, only interrupted by a continued series of whitish feathers on the lower part of the neck, making an acute angle, the point running down the middle of the back, and forming as it were the acuminated part of the

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CRESTED BLACK VULTURE.
from Edwards

monk's hood, hanging from the shoulders down the middle of the back; while another similar series of whitish feathers terminating in an acute angle about the middle of the back covered all the lower part of the back toward the complications of the wings, forming a kind of cloak: the tail was broad and of a middling size; the feet dusky, and covered with scales: the beak and claws were of a dusky horn-colour: the feathers on the thighs reached no lower than the knees. This bird, according to Aldrovandus, was taken on the Alpine mountains of the town of *Giulia*.

Monsieur Sonnini, in his elegant and useful edition of the Natural History of the Count de Buffon, imagines, and even roundly asserts, that this bird is no other than the *Vautour* or *Grand Vautour* of Buffon, figured at No. 425 of the Planches Enluminées; and that the description, or rather the figure given by Edwards has caused the mistake of other writers, who have conceived the head to be furnished with a tuber or callosity instead of a downy tuft.

The description of Edwards informs us that this species "is a very large bird, exceeding the size of a common Eagle by a third part: the beak is longer than in the Eagle, without angles on the edges of the upper mandible, and of a black or dusky colour towards its point: its basis is covered with a light blueish skin, in which the nostrils are placed: the head and part of the neck are covered with short downy feathers of an ash-colour, white round

the eyes and on the cheek: the iris of the eye is of a dark hazel colour: it hath a roundish tuft or crest arising from the hinder part of the head: the lower part of the neck is surrounded with long, loose feathers of an ash-colour, which form a kind of ruff, into which the bird draws its head when it reposes or sleeps, so that the head is hardly to be seen: the remaining plumage all over the body &c. is of a dusky brown or blackish colour, except a few of the lesser covert-feathers of the wing, which are tipped with white: the under side of the bird is a shade lighter than the back and wings: its legs and feet are covered with blueish scales: the toes are connected at their bottoms by a skin: the nails or claws are black: the feathers on the thighs are long and loose, and sometimes cover the legs."

This Vulture was said by its keeper to have been brought from the deserts of Arabia. Edwards considered it as a non-descript species.

The Count de Buffon describes it as thicker and larger than the common Eagle, but rather smaller than the Fulvous Vulture, from which it is easy to distinguish it; its neck being covered with a longer and thicker down, of the same colour with the feathers of the back, and having a white collar, rising on both sides of the head, and extending in two branches to the bottom of the neck, covering on each side a pretty broad black space, under which is a narrow white ring: its feet are also covered with brown feathers, while in the Fulvous

LE CHINCOU. *Levaillant*

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Vulture they are yellowish or whitish; and lastly, the toes are yellow, whereas in the Fulvous Vulture they are brown or ash-coloured*.

The general length of this species, according to Monsieur Sonnini, is three feet and a half: its beak four inches, its tail one foot, and its measure from wing's end to wing's end seven feet ten inches. It inhabits the highest mountains of Europe and Asia, and while it sleeps, withdraws its neck between its shoulders, so that the head appears as if cowled by the long plumes of the ruff. It is said to be occasionally seen in the mountainous parts of Germany, and among the Alps of Swisserland.

The Vulture described and figured by Vaillant under the name of *Le Chincou* appears to be no other than the present species, the description given by that author exactly corresponding with the bird represented by Edwards.

Although I have in this article conjoined the *Vautour* of Buffon with the V. Monachus of Linnæus, I will by no means venture to affirm that they are absolutely the same species; but that the Chincou of Levaillant and the Crested Black-Vulture of Edwards are the same can hardly be called in question. It is singular that Monsieur Sonnini, after his just observation relative to the downy tuft on the head of Edwards's bird, should

* In this particular however the Count de Buffon's bird differs from the above-described ones, in which the feet are brown or ash-coloured.

not have perceived the similarity in the *Chincou* of Levaillant.

The *Arrian* of Levaillant has so many resemblances to the *Vautour* of Buffon, or Cinereous Vulture of Latham, which we have in the present article united with the Monachus of Linnæus, that there can be little doubt of the identity of the species. It is said to be not uncommon in the Pyrenean mountains.

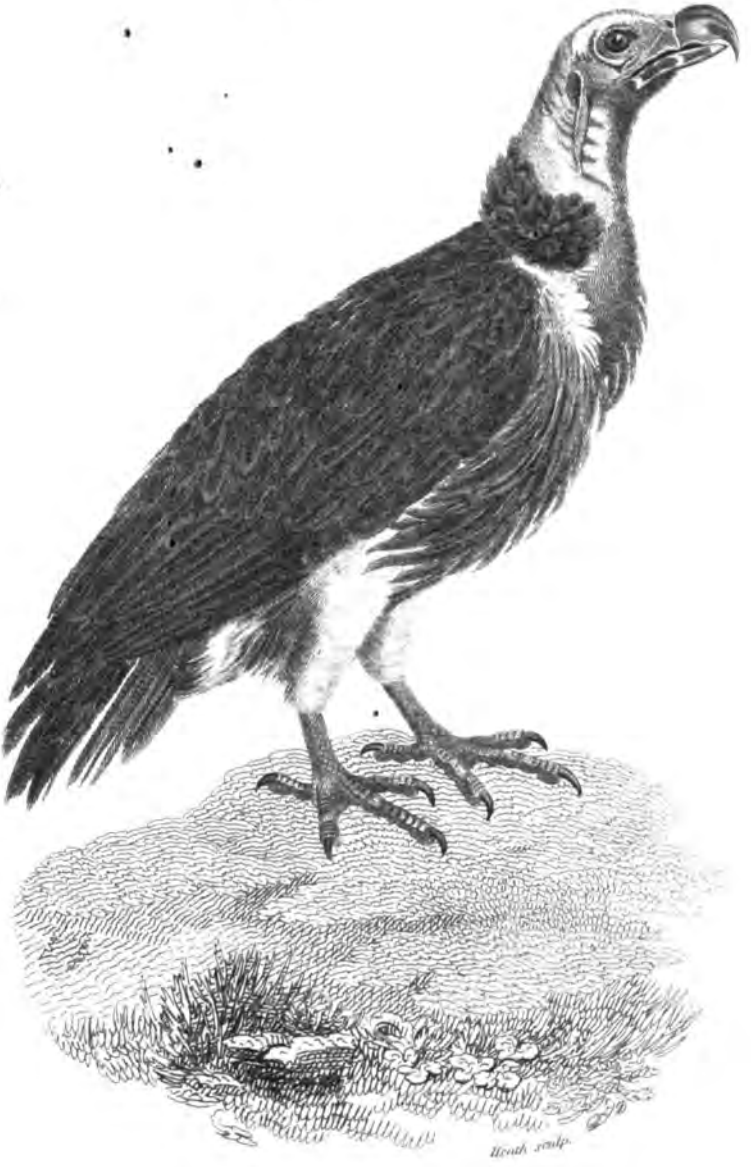
AURICULATED VULTURE.

Vultur auriculatus. *V. fuscus, collo nudo, cute auriculari producta, torque cervicali pallida.*

Brown Vulture, with naked neck, skin of the ears lengthened, and pale ruff.

L' Oricou. *Levaill. ois. Afr. p.* 36, *pl.* 9.

The auriculated Vulture or Oricou of Levaillant takes its name from the remarkable projection of the skin round the ears, and which is also continued to some little distance down the neck on each side. It is a very large bird, measuring ten feet from wing's end to wing's end: its general colour brown, the throat being black, and covered with coarse hairs. These birds inhabit the Southern parts of Africa, and are of a gregarious nature, being often seen in large flocks, and sitting in vast numbers about the caverns of the rocky mountains on which they breed: their nests are frequently placed very near each other, and they appear to live in a kind



AURICULATED VULTURE.

1808 Sep.t 1. London Published by C. Heath 79 Fleet Street.

of society: each nest contains generally two, and sometimes three eggs, of a white colour and of no unpleasing taste. The Oricou is a species of great voracity, and when attacked or wounded defends itself with prodigious strength and resolution, but is naturally of an indolent and sluggish character.

PONDICHERRY VULTURE.

Vultur Ponticerianus. *V. niger, capite colloque subdenudatis incarnatis, lateribus colli caruncula carnosa rubra. Lath. ind. orn. p. 7.*

Black Vulture, with nearly naked, flesh-coloured head and neck, and a fleshy red caruncle down each side the neck.

Vautour Royal de Pondicherry. *Sonnerat voy. ind. 2. p. 182. pl. 104.*

Size of a very large Goose. Head and neck naked and flesh-coloured: hind-head and space between the beak and eye beset with reddish down: on the sides of the neck a red caruncle: fore part of the neck and breast beset at intervals with tufts of small flesh-coloured plumes: iris red: bill black: legs yellow. Native of India, particularly about Pondicherry.

INDIAN VULTURE.

Vultur Indicus. *V. fuscus, corpore supra fasciis pallidis, capite colloque denudatis rufis, remigibus rectricibusque nigris. Lath. ind. orn. p. 7.*

Brown Vulture, with naked, rufous head and neck, and black wing and tail-feathers.

Indian Vulture. *Lath. Syn. suppl. p. 6.*

Le grand Vautour des Indes. *Sonner. voy. Ind. 2. p. 183. pl. 105.*

Size of the preceding species: head and neck rufous, and furnished with a scattered hairy down: bill black: irides red: neck long in proportion, and beset with tufts of very fine feathers: those of the breast short, appearing as if clipped or shaven; those of the lower part of the neck behind long, narrow, pointed, and of a bright rufous colour: wing-coverts, back, and rump brown, with pale bands, owing to the tip of each feather being much paler than the rest: quills, tail, and legs black. Native of India: extremely voracious, principally frequenting the sea banks, and preying on dead fish and other putrid substances; and, like other birds of this genus, sometimes assembling in vast numbers on a field of battle.

FULVOUS or GOLDEN VULTURE

FULVOUS VULTURE.

Vultur Fulvus. *V. fulvo-castaneus, remigibus caudaque nigris, capite colloque lanuginosis albidis, torque albo.*
Fulvous-chesnut Vulture, with black wing and tail-feathers; downy whitish head and neck, and white ruff.
Fulvous Vulture. *Will. orn. p. 67. No. 7.*
Vulture. *Albin. vol. 3. pl. 1.*
Le Griffon. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 151. Mem. Acad. des Sciences. 1666 p. 209. pl. 30.?*
Vultur fulvus. *Briss. orn. 1. p. 462.*
Golden Vulture. *Will. orn. p. 67. No. 5. ??*

The Fulvous or Golden Vulture is one of the largest of the genus, exceeding the size of the Golden Eagle. The specimen described by the accurate Brisson measured three feet six inches in length, and eight feet in breadth. The general colour of the plumage, when the bird is in high health, is a full rufous or tawny chesnut, in some individuals appearing more obscure or more approaching to a brown cast, especially on the upper parts of the body: the larger wing-feathers and the tail are of a dull black: the bill blueish, with the tip black: the eyes orange-coloured: the head and neck bare of feathers, but covered with pale or whitish woolly down, the skin itself being of a blueish cast: the lower part of the neck is encircled with a ruff of white plumes, and beneath the breast is usually observed a considerable cavity, lined with hairs, the tips of which are directed towards the middle: this is the place of the craw, which however may be supposed occasionally to pro-

trude when the bird is full-fed: the legs and feet are ash-coloured.

The figure of this bird in the Memoirs of the French Academy represents it with a very slight occipital tuft or elongation of the down on the back part of the head. That given at plate 4 of Willughby's Ornithology, under the name of *The Vulture*, though by no means elegant, is yet sufficiently expressive of the general appearance of the bird. In the wretched publication of Albin there is also a figure of this species; but there seems to be a mistake in the colouring; the ruff being represented of the same colour with the plumage of the body*. It must be confessed that a high degree of confusion seems to take place, even among the latest and best ornithologists, relative to the species of Vultures; and very little dependance can, perhaps, be placed on the specific characters usually given; while the figures in various works, being occasionally misquoted and misapplied, have tended to increase the embarrassment. There can be little doubt that the present and the following species in particular are often confounded; neither indeed is the real difference sufficiently striking in any other respect than colour, to admit of a very correct specific character.

* Perhaps the bird may sometimes vary in this particular.

CHESNUT VULTURE

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CHESNUT VULTURE.

Vultur castaneus. *V. fuscus, capite colloque lanuginosis albidis, torque subfusco, remigibus candaque nigris.*
Chesnut Vulture, with whitish downy head and neck, brownish ruff, and black wing and tail-feathers.
Le Percnoptere. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 149. *Pl. Enl.* 426.

THE present species, viz. the Percnoptere of Buffon, and which seems to be often mistaken by authors for the Vultur Percnopterus of Linnæus, appears to differ so little in its general aspect from the Fulvous Vulture, that one would be inclined to suppose it no other than a variety of the same bird, which, no doubt, like most others, occasionally varies in the cast of its plumage, inclining more or less either to fulvous, pale, or deep brown in different individuals.

The description of Buffon states that the head is pale blue, the neck white and naked, or covered like the head merely with a white down, and furnished with a collar of small, white, hard feathers below the neck, like a ruff; the iris reddish yellow; the bill and cere black; the hook of the bill whitish: the lower part of the feet and legs naked, and of a lead-colour; the claws black, shorter and straiter than those of an Eagle. It is remarkable for a brown spot shaped like a heart, and edged with a strait white line, situated on the breast under the ruff. In general this bird is of an ugly and ill-proportioned figure, and has even a disgusting appearance, from the continual flux of

rheum from its nostrils, and of saliva from two other holes in the bill: the craw is prominent, and when it is upon the ground it keeps its wings always extended. The Count de Buffon adds, that it is of the size of an Eagle, that it is an inhabitant of the Alps and Pyrenees, and of the mountains of Greece, and that it seems to be more rare than other Vultures. The Count de Buffon supposes it to be the Percnopteros of Aristotle. Whether this may be the case or not I shall not take upon myself to determine: it is necessary however to repeat that it is not the Vultur Percnopterus of Linnæus.

BENGAL VULTURE.

Vultur Bengalensis. *V. fuscus, subtus pallidior, remigibus nigris, capite colloque fusco-lanuginosis, torque fusco.*

Brown Vulture, paler beneath, with the head and neck covered by fuscous down; the lower part encircled by a brown ruff.

Bengal Vulture. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 19.

This I place next to the two immediately preceding Vultures on account of its general similarity in point of shape or habit. Its length, according to Mr. Latham, is two feet six inches: its colour a uniform dusky brown, paler beneath: the head and neck covered with dark grey down, and encircled at the bottom by a ruff of lengthened plumes: eyes of a very deep brown: bill and legs dusky black. The crop hangs over the breast, as

in many others of the Vulture tribe, and I may here add, that this circumstance, which seems merely to depend on the birds being either full-fed or in a fasting state, has apparently misled some writers to represent it as forming a part of the descriptive character of the animal in several species. The present bird is a native of Bengal.

Var.?

BLACK VULTURE

Vultur Niger. *V. niger, remigibus rectricibusque fuscis, pedum pennis nigris. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel. Briss. av. p.* 131. *Will. orn. p.* 66.

This bird is described as larger than the Golden Vulture, and of a black colour, with brown wing-feathers and tail: the head covered with down, and the neck nearly bare: the orbits of the eyes, and the legs, which are feathered to the toes, white. It is said to be common in Egypt.

GINGI VULTURE.

Vultur Ginginianus. *V. albus, remigibus nigris, rostro pedibusque griseis. Lath. ind. orn.*
White Vulture, with black wing-feathers, and grey beak and legs.
Le Vautour Gingi. *Sonner. Voy. ind. 2. p.* 184.

Described by Sonnerat, who informs us that it is of the size of a Turkey, and is found about the coasts of Coromandel, where it is called the wild turkey. If, says Sonnerat, we only regarded the character of the beak, we should not rank this bird among the Vultures, for it resembles exactly that of a Turkey: its base is covered with a naked skin, and the space between the nostrils and eyes is covered with hair-like down: the front, cheeks, and throat are naked, and, together with the base of the bill, are of a reddish flesh-colour: the feathers on the back of the head and neck are long and narrow, and the colour of the whole bird is white, except the quill-feathers of the wings, which are black: the irides are red; the bill and legs grey. Its size is that of a Turkey; its flight strong and rapid, and its voracity insatiable. It lives on carrion and reptiles; is generally seen single, and particularly in marshy places.

GESNERIAN VULTURE.

Vultur Percnopterus. *V. albus (femina subfusca) rostro elongato angusto, facie nuda, remigibus nigris margine canis.*
White Vulture (the female brownish,) with lengthened narrow beak, naked face, and black wing-feathers with grey edges.
Vultur Percnopterus. *V. remigibus nigris, margine exteriore, præter extimas, canis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Aquila quam Percnopterum, et Oripelargum, et Gypaetum vocant. Gesn. av. p. 193.
Rachamah. *Bruce trav. append. p.* 163.

It is to be lamented that the specific characters given by Linnæus in the Systema Naturæ are too often of very little use from their excessive brevity. Who can be supposed to be much instructed by such a descriptive character as *Vultur remigibus nigris, margine exteriore, præter extimas, canis.?* Linnæus however adds in a note, that the male bird is entirely white, and the female brown. The bird intended by Linnæus is the Percnopterus of Gesner, not very ill figured at page 193 of that author's ornithology*, though represented with the head very much retracted, or immersed in the neck-feathers. From the figure it appears to have been a male bird, being white, with the quill-feathers blackish or deep brown: its size, according to the description sent to Gesner, that of a Stork.

It appears therefore probable that the *Rachamah* of Mr. Bruce, the *Angola Vulture* of Mr. Pennant,

* Gesneri Opera, Tiguri, 1551. &c.

the *Ash-coloured Vulture* of Mr. Latham, and the *Petit Vautour* of Buffon, (*Petit Vautour de Norvege*. Pl. Enl. 429.) are in reality one and the same species, and constitute the male *Vultur Percnopterus* of Linnæus. I am also strongly inclined to believe that the *Maltese Vulture* of Mr. Latham, *Le Vautour de Malte* of Buffon (Pl. Enl. 427,) is no other than the female of this species*.

On this supposition the Vultur Percnopterus should seem to be a pretty general inhabitant of the old continent, being found not only in many of the temperate and warmer parts of Europe, but in various parts of Asia and Africa. It is said to be particularly plentiful in Egypt, where it is highly esteemed for its good services in destroying various putrid substances in the neighbourhood of towns and cities. Its general size, according to Monsieur Levaillant, is that of a female Turkey, but, like the American Vulture, it appears to vary greatly in size in different countries. The male bird also appears to vary in the cast of its colour, which is sometimes merely white, and sometimes a dirty pale-rufous white: the quills are black, but the secondaries are externally of the same colour with the rest of the plumage; thus confirming part of the Linnæan specific character. The female is said to exceed the male in size.

The description and figure given by Mr. Bruce of the Vulture called *Rachamah* appear evidently to relate to the present species.

* Mr. Latham, in his second Supplement, appears to be nearly of the same opinion.

"This bird (says he) is met with in some places in the south of Syria and in Barbary, but is nowhere so frequent as in Egypt, and about Cairo. It is called by the Europeans Poule de Faraone, the hen or the bird of Pharaoh. It is a vulture of the lesser kind, the hen being not much larger than our rook or crow, though by the length of its wings, and the erect manner in which it carries its head, it appears considerably larger. In Egypt and all over Barbary it is called Rachamah. The point of the beak of this bird is black, very sharp and strong for about three quarters of an inch, it is then covered by a yellow fleshy membrane, which clothes it as it were both above and below, as likewise the forepart of the head and throat, and ends in a sharp point before, nearly opposite to where the neck joins the breast; this membrane is wrinkled, and has a few hairs growing thinly scattered upon the lower part of it: it has large open nostrils, and prodigious large ears, which are not covered by any feathers whatever: the body is perfect white from the middle of the head, where it joins the yellow membrane, down to the tail: the large feathers of its wing are black; they are six in number: the lesser feathers are three, of an iron-grey, lighter towards the middle, and these are covered with three others lesser still, but of the same form, of an iron rusty colour: those feathers that cover the large wing-feathers are at the top for about an inch and quarter of an iron-grey, but the bottom is pure white: the tail is broad and thick above, and draws to a point at the bottom; it is not composed of large feathers, and is not half

an inch longer than the point of its wings: its thighs are clothed with a soft, down-like feather, as far as the joint: its legs are of a dirty white, inclining to flesh-colour, rough, with small tubercles which are soft and fleshy: it has three toes before and one behind; the middle of these is considerably the longest; they are armed with black claws, rather strong than pointed or much crooked: it has no voice that ever I heard, generally goes single, and oftener sits and walks upon the ground than upon trees: it delights in the most putrid and stinking kind of carrion, has itself a very strong smell, and putrifies very speedily. It is a very great breach of order, or police, to kill any one of these birds near Cairo."

AMERICAN VULTURE.

Vultur Aura. *V. Nigricans, purpureo viridique nitens, capite colloque denudatis rubris papilloso-rugosis.*

Blackish Vulture, with purple and green reflexions, and red, naked, papillated and wrinkled head and neck.

Vultur Aura. *V. fusco-griseus, remigibus nigris, rostro albo. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Carrion Vulture. *Sloane's Jamaica, 2. p. 294. pl. 254.*

Turkey-Buzzard. *Catesb. Carol. 1. pl. 6.*

THIS species, with some variations*, appears to be pretty generally diffused over the whole conti-

* It is contended by some that there are in reality two distinct species, viz. the *V. Aura*, which is of a blackish brown, and the *V. Uruba*, which is entirely black, the bill, head, and neck excepted. This black species, or *Uruba*, is most prevalent in South America.

nent of South America, but is most numerous in the warmer regions. In some parts of British America it is popularly called by the name of the Turkey-Buzzard, and in other parts by that of the Carrion Crow. Its general size is somewhat smaller than a Turkey, and its colour brownish black, with varying reflexions of green and purple; the larger wing-feathers and tail being of a deeper black than the rest of the plumage. The whole head and neck, with the base of the bill, are bare of feathers, of a dull red colour, transversly wrinkled and granulated, and sparingly scattered over with a blackish down: the bill is rather narrow, lengthened, and of a whitish colour, with a dark tip: the legs and feet flesh-coloured, with black claws. It feeds on every kind of animal matter, and is highly esteemed in the West Indies on account of its activity in clearing away such substances as might otherwise tend to infect the air in those warm climates. In consequence of this mode of life, the birds themselves have always a very offensive odour. They are observed to vary considerably in size in different parts of America, and the smallest are those of the West Indies, the measure of those of Jamaica being, according to Sir Hans Sloane, two feet from the tip of the bill to that of the tail, and twice as much from wing's end to wing's end. Their general manners are very well described by Catesby.

"Their food is carrion, in search of which they are always soaring in the air: they continue a long time on the wing, and with an easy, swimming

motion, mount and fall, without any visible moving of their wings. A dead carcass will attract together great numbers of them, and 'tis pleasant to observe their contentions in feeding. An Eagle sometimes presides at the banquet, and makes them keep their distance while he satiates himself. This bird (the Carrion Vulture) has a wonderful sagacity in smelling. No sooner there is a beast dead, but they are seen approaching from all quarters of the air, wheeling about, and gradually descending and drawing nigh their prey, till at length they fall upon it. They are generally thought not to prey on any thing living, though I have known them kill lambs; and snakes are their usual food. Their custom is to roost, many of them together, on tall dead pine or cypress-trees, and in the morning continue several hours on their roost, with their wings spread open; I believe, that the air may have the greater influence to purify their filthy carcasses. They are little apprehensive of danger, and will suffer a near approach, especially when they are eating."

"At the first landing of the English in Jamaica, (says Sir Hans Sloane) by the bareness and colour of the skin on the head, they took this bird for a Turkey, and killed several of them in several places for such; but soon found themselves deceived with their stinking and lean bodies, which they almost always have."

Mr. Pennant, in his Arctic Zoology, observes that these birds are common from Nova Scotia to Terra del Fuego, but swarm in the hotter parts of

KING VULTURE

America. He adds that, "mischievous as they are in a few instances*, yet, by the wise and beneficent dispensations of Providence, they make in the hot climates full recompence, by lessening the number of those destructive animals the Alligators, which would otherwise become intolerable by their multitudes. During the season in which these reptiles lay their eggs in the sand, the Vultures will sit hid in the leaves of the trees, watching the coming of the female Alligator to deposit its eggs, who then covers them with sand to secure them, as she imagines, from all danger; but no sooner does she retire into the water, than the birds dart on the spot, and with claws, wings, and beak, tear away the sand, and devour the contents of the whole depositary."

KING VULTURE.

Vultur Papa. *V. alboto rufescens, capite colloque denudatis variegatis, naribus carunculâ laxâ croceâ, collo torque cano.*

Whitish-rufescent Vulture, with naked variegated head and neck; nostrils furnished with a loose orange-coloured caruncle, and neck with a grey ruff.

Vultur Papa. *V. Naribus carunculatis, vertice colloque denudato. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

The King of the Vultures. *Edw. pl. 2.*

THIS bird, which exceeds every other species of Vulture in the elegance of its appearance, is

* They are sometimes known to attack cattle in a weak or diseased state and destroy them.

about the size of a hen Turkey, and of a light reddish brown or buff colour, with black wings and tail, accompanied with a gloss of green, the edges of the wing-feathers being of a whitish cast: the under parts of the body are white, with a slight cast of yellow; the legs and feet pale flesh-colour; but what constitutes the peculiar ornament of the bird is the vivid colouring of the head and neck, which are bare of feathers, and are thus correctly described in the words of Edwards.

"The bill is pretty thick and strong, strait for a little way, then bends into a hook, and overhangs the lower mandible: it is red at the point, and black in the middle-part: the base of the bill, both upper and lower mandibles, are covered with a skin of an orange-colour, broad, and pointing to the crown of the head on each side above, in which spaces are placed the nostrils, of an oblong shape: between the nostrils is a loose flap of scolloped skin, which falls indifferently on either side of the bill when the bird moves its head: the iris of the eye is of a bright pearly whiteness: round the eye is an indifferent broad space of scarlet skin: the head and neck are covered with bare skin; the crown is of a dirty flesh-colour towards the bill, and scarlet in the hinder part, behind which is a little tuft of black hairs: from this tuft proceeds on each side and parts the head from the neck, a sort of stay of wrinkled skin, of a brownish colour, with a little blue and red in its hinder part: the sides of the head are of a black or dirty colour, with spots of brownish purple behind the angles of

the mouth: the sides of the neck are red, which gradually becomes yellow in its fore part: there runs a dirty yellow list down the hind part of the neck; and at the bottom of the neck a ruff of loose, soft, ash-coloured feathers quite round, in which, by contraction, it can hide its whole neck, and sides of the head."

This beautiful species is a native of many parts of South-America, and is said to be also found in the West-Indies. In its manners it resembles the rest of this tribe, feeding on carrion, and occasionally preying on several of the smaller animals, as lizards, &c. &c. The most correct and expressive figure is that of Edwards, which is therefore selected for the present work.

PLAINTIVE VULTURE.

Vultur Plancus. *V. albidus, lineis transversis nigricantibus, alis fuscis, vertice subcristato nigro.*
Whitish Vulture, with transverse blackish lines, brown wings, and slightly crested black crown.
Vultur Plancus. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Falco Plancus. *Lin. Gmel. Mill. Illustr. Nat. Hist. pl.* 17.
Plaintive Eagle. *Lath. Synops.* 1. *p.* 34.
Plaintive Vulture. *Lath. Synops. suppl. p.* 4.

From a kind of ambiguity of character which the head of this species exhibits, Mr. Latham in his excellent ornithological Synopsis, was induced to place it in the genus Falco, and others have since continued the same arrangement. In re-

ality however, as Mr. Latham has observed in his Supplement, its characters are rather those of a Vulture than an Eagle.

Its length is about two feet four inches, and its colour white or pale cinereous, crossed with very numerous blackish lines or narrow bars; but the wings are brown, except some of the larger quill-feathers, which are black, and some of the secondaries, which are coloured like the back, and have black tips: the tail is also of the same appearance, and is tipped by a broad black bar, and on the lower part of the belly is a broad black zone: the bill is brown, the cere or naked part, which extends beyond the eyes, is orange-coloured, and slightly besprinkled with a kind of setaceous down, which is continued to a little distance under the throat: the top of the head is black, with the feathers somewhat lengthened, so as to form a slight crest: the legs and feet are yellow. This bird is finely figured in Mr. Miller's miscellaneous plates of Natural History. It is a native of Terra del Fuego, and is introduced, as an accompaniment to the scenery of *Christmas Sound* in the thirty-second plate of Captain Cook's Voyage, vol. 2. p. 184.

CHERIWAY VULTURE.

Vultur Cheriway. *V. cera rosea, pedibus flavis, corpore ferrugineo, capite albido, vertice cristato ferrugineo. Lath. ind. orn.*

Vulture with rose-coloured cere, yellow legs, ferruginous body, and whitish head with ferruginous crest.

Falco Cheriway. *Jacq. Voeg. p. 17. t. 4.*

This is a kind of doubtful species, which may either be considered as a Vulture or an Eagle. It seems to have been first described by Jacquin, who observed it in the island of Aruba, near the coast of Venetzuela in South America. Its length is rather more than two feet and a half: the bill pale blue; the head and neck very pale yellow; the hind-head crested; the cere and parts round the eyes rose-colour: the general colour of the plumage on the upper parts ferruginous, beneath pale: the vent white: the two middle tail-feathers marked with dusky bars; the lateral ones and quills dusky black: the legs pale yellow. This bird is said never to erect the crest on the head, which is always carried in a recumbent state.

DOUBTFUL SPECIES.

Tawny Vulture. *Latham Syn.*
Brown's Illustrations of Zoology. pl. 1.

A middle-sized species, entirely of a very pale rufous-brown colour, with the tail whitish, and marked by several narrow brown bars. From a specimen in the Museum of the Royal Society. Said to be a native of Falkland Isles. Bill very short, cere large: chin slightly bearded.

Hare Vulture. *Lath Syn. Will. orn. p. 67. No. 4.*
Vultur leporarius. *Gesn.*

Said to be about the size of the Golden Eagle, and entirely of a shining reddish black colour; the breast inclining to fulvous: bill black; legs yellow: head furnished with a crest, appearing as if horned. Said to inhabit the recesses of thick woods, to build in lofty trees, and to prey on leverets and other animals. It is probably a species of Eagle rather than Vulture.

Armed Vulture.

Mentioned by Brown in his African Travels, and said to be extremely frequent in the country of Darfur, flying about by thousands, and devouring all manner of carrion, &c. Its colour is not particularly described, but it is said to have a

white head, and to be furnished with a strong and sharp spur at the joint or shoulder of each wing, which renders it a very formidable adversary.

Bold Vulture. *Lath. suppl. 2d.*

Size uncertain: colour wholly brown, with pale yellow bill: front of the head bare: quills and tail nearly black. Said to be a very bold bird, and to kill the *Pottegorang*, and even to attack the natives in New Holland, where it is called by the name of *Boora-Morang*.

SERPENTARIUS. SNAKE-EATER.

Generic Character.

Rostrum vulturinum.	*Beak* vulturine.
Lingua acuminata.	*Tongue* pointed.
Pedes longissimi.	*Legs* very long.

AFRICAN SNAKE-EATER.

Serpentarius Africanus. *S. cinereus, occipite cristato, cauda cuneata, rectricibus mediis elongatis.*
Ash-coloured Snake-Eater, with the hind-head crested, the tail cuneated, and the middle tail-feathers lengthened.
Sagittarius. *Vosmaer monogr. tab.* 8.
Secretary or Sagittarius. *Phil. Trans.* 61. *p.* 175.
The Snake-Eater. *Memoirs of G. Edwards. p.* 34.
Secretaire. *Sonnerat voy. p.* 87. *t.* 50.
Vultur Serpentarius. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Secretary Vulture. *Lath. syn.*
Falco Serpentarius. *Lin. Gmel. Miller Ill. Nat. Hist. pl.* 28.
Vultur Serpentarius. *Cimelia Physica. t.* 28.

THE bird which constitutes the present genus is so much allied in its principal characters to the Vulture tribe, that it has been associated with those birds by one of the first ornithologists of the present age. It has indeed been more generally

AFRICAN SNAKE-EATER

considered as belonging to the genus Falco, and has accordingly been so placed in the Gmelinian edition of the Systema Naturæ of Linnæus. The peculiarity of its appearance however is sufficient to justify its being considered as forming a separate genus, allied both to that of Vultur and Falco, but most nearly to the former.

"This bird, says the judicious Edwards, is of a new genus, and the only species of it hitherto come to my knowledge. It is about the bigness of the Heron and Crane kind, except that the neck is a little longer. On first view, I judged it to be no wader in the water, for though the legs are as long, or longer than in Herons, &c. yet they are feathered down to the knees, which we do not find in birds who wade in shallow waters to seek their food: the toes of this bird are also much shorter than they are in Herons; so that I think it must be placed amongst land birds. The bill is exactly like those of Hawks and other birds of prey; which is the only instance I have discovered in any of the long-legged kind of birds: the talons or claws are small, and unfit for a bird of prey, and the eyes are of a dark colour, placed in the spaces covered with a bare skin of an orange-colour, on each side the head."

The Count de Buffon places it in company with the Herons, the Jabiru, the Palamedea, and the rest of the larger kind of waders, and the ingenious Monsieur Sonnini follows the same arrangement.

The most accurate description of the Snake-

Eater is that of Monsieur Levaillant, who, during his African travels, had the opportunity of contemplating it in its native regions. Its size, he informs us, is somewhat inferior to that of a Stork, the beak strong, and curved like that of an Eagle; the base of the beak, and the eyes, are surrounded by a bare orange-coloured skin: the mouth is wide, the gape or opening passing beyond the eyes; which are grey, and ornamented by black brows: on the back of the head is a pendent crest, formed of ten feathers, the lowest of which are the longest: the legs are very long, and the tail is composed of feathers which lengthen on each side, the two middle ones being twice the length of the rest. The colour of the bird in its perfect plumage is a blueish grey on the head, neck, breast and back: the coverts of the wings are of the same colour, but clouded with rufous brown, and the quill-feathers are black: the throat and breast are white; the inferior tail-coverts very pale rufous; the lower belly black, mixed or streaked with rufous; the thighs black, very finely streaked with brown: the tail-feathers are partly black, but become more grey as they lengthen, and are tipped with white: the two middle-feathers are of a blueish grey, clouded with brown towards the end, which is white with a black spot. The female differs from the male by its grey colour, less clouded with brown; by its shorter crest; by the feathers on the belly and thighs being more varied; and lastly, by the two middle tail-feathers, which are shorter than in the male. The skin of the throat

and neck of this bird are capable of great extension, and the shoulders are each armed with three strong, rounded, bony protuberances, which enable it to wage successful war against snakes, which it constantly persecutes. It also feeds on young tortoises, lizards, &c. and occasionally on locusts and other insects. In the craw of one examined by Monsieur Levaillant were found twenty-one young tortoises, several of which were nearly two inches in diameter; three snakes of the length of a man's arm, and an inch thick; and eleven lizards of seven or eight inches in length; and in the stomach, which was very large, was a ball of the size of a goose-egg, formed entirely of the vertebræ of snakes and lizards, the scales of tortoises, the wing-shells of various beetles, and the wings and legs of locusts.

The Snake-eater is an inhabitant of dry open plains in the lower parts of Africa. It is found about the Cape of Good Hope, and in the country of the Caffres and Namaquas. Being almost always obliged to run in pursuit of its prey, it makes but little use of its power of flight. It frequently kills, or at least totally disables a snake with a single stroke of its wing, by breaking the vertebræ. In its natural state it is extremely wild, and very difficultly approached. The male and female rarely quit each other. Those which frequent the neighbourhood of the Cape construct a very large nest or eyry on the top of some high thicket, and line it with wool and feathers; but towards the region of terra de Natal they

build on lofty trees. The eggs are two or three in number, white, with reddish specks, and about the size of goose-eggs.

When the Snake-eater is taken young, it may be easily tamed, and may be kept with poultry in the farm-yard, where it is serviceable in destroying rats and various other noxious animals. It may be fed with meat, either raw or dressed, and will readily eat fish. If kept too long fasting, it is apt to seize on small chickens and ducklings, which it swallows whole, in their feathers. It is not however of a malignant disposition, and is generally observed to interpose its authority in appeasing the quarrels that happen among the other birds.

FALCO. FALCON.

Generic Character.

Rostrum aduncum, basi cera instructum.	*Beak* hooked, furnished at the base with a cere.
Caput pennis arcte tectum.	*Head* well covered with feathers.
Lingua plerisque bifida.	*Tongue*, in most species, bifid.

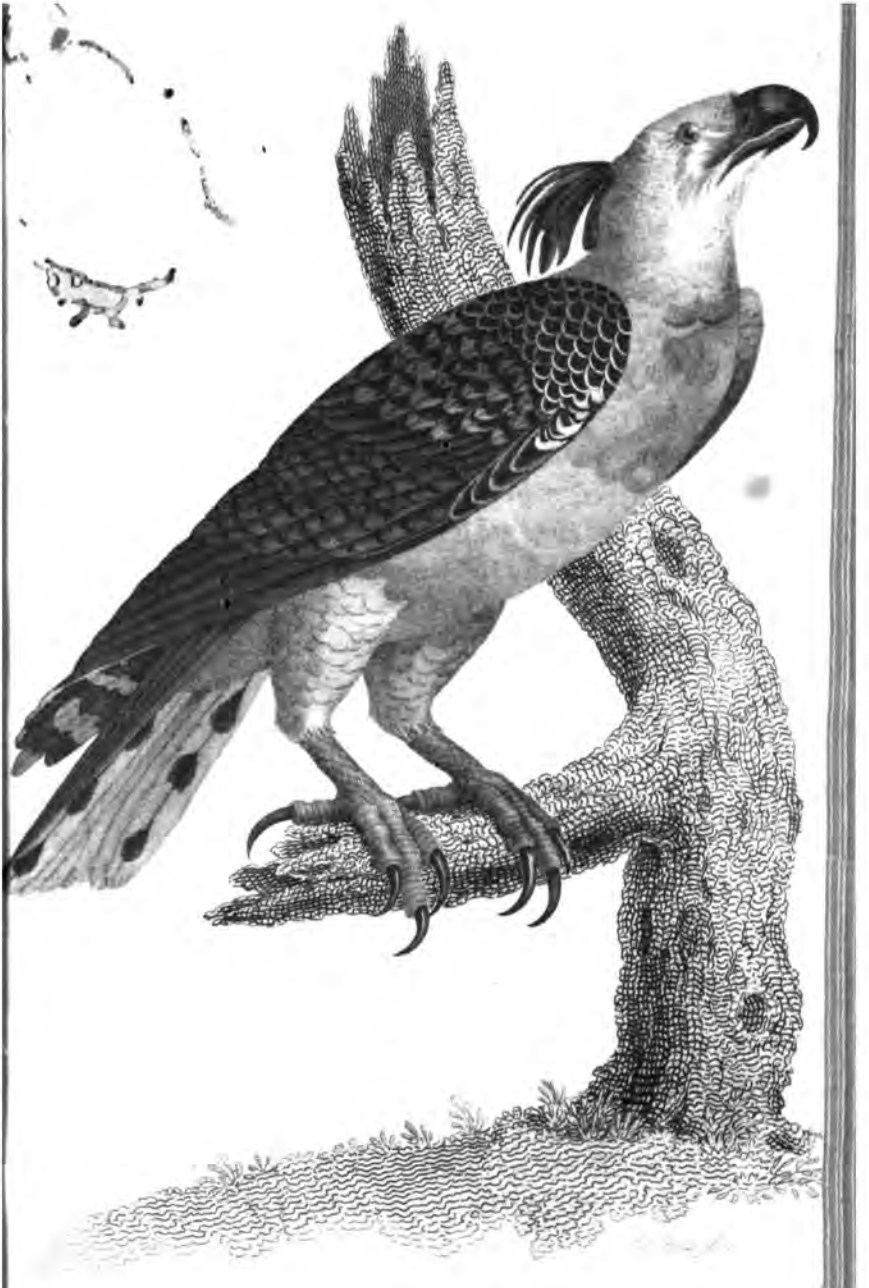
THE birds of this genus differ from the Vultures in having a less elongated beak, very strong, curved, and generally furnished on each side, towards the tip, with a kind of tooth or process. They prey, in general, on living animals, unless compelled by hunger. The species are extremely numerous, and are observed to vary considerably in their plumage according to age and other circumstances. The males are smaller than the females. The genus may be considered as constituting five tribes or families, viz. Eagles, Falcons, Kites, Buzzards, and Hawks.

IMPERIAL EAGLE.

Falco imperialis. *F. nigricans, rufo-cinereo varius, cristæ occipitalis pennis mediis dimidiato-nigris.*
Blackish Eagle, with rufo-cinereous variegations, and the two middle feathers of the occipital crest half black.
Le Grand Aigle de la Guiane. *Sonnini Buff.*
L'Aigle Destructeur. *Sonnini Buff.?*
Falco Destructor. *Daudin ornith. 2. p. 60.?*

THIS noble bird is a native of South-America, and was first described by Monsieur Sonnini, who discovered it in Guiana. In size it considerably surpasses the Golden Eagle, measuring three feet and a half from the tip of the bill to the end of the tail. Its colour above is rufous grey, barred with black, the black prevailing most on the wings: the tail is grey, barred and spotted with black, and tipped with rufous: all the under parts of the bird, except the vent, are pale cinereous, very soft and downy: the vent is white barred with black: the beak and cere black; the legs and feet yellow: the head is strongly crested with long grey feathers, tipped with dull white, the two middle feathers exceeding the rest in length, and measuring above five inches: these two feathers are of a rufous-grey colour for half their length, the remainder being black, with rufous-grey tips: the skin of the front, between the beak and eyes is bare, and beset with scattered black hairs.

This Eagle is a rare bird in Guiana, and is found only in the interior parts of the country, where it



IMPERIAL EAGLE

inhabits the deep recesses of the forests, preying on various kinds of game. When disturbed, it immediately elevates the crest on its head.

I cannot but imagine the bird described by Monsieur Sonnini and Monsieur Daudin under the name of *Aigle Destructeur*, (Falco Destructor) to be no other than the male of the same species. Like the preceding, it was first discovered by Monsieur Sonnini in Guiana. Its length is three feet two inches, French measure; and its colour black above, with greyish clouds or bands; the under parts dull white, with a mixture of grey: the head cinereous, and furnished at the back part with a beautiful semipendent crest, consisting of several feathers of considerable length, and of a grey colour; the middle feather longer than the rest, and of a black colour, tipped with grey: the thighs white, with transverse black undulations; the bill horn-colour; the legs and feet yellow. It is said to be a very bold and ferocious bird, and to prey on fawns, and other young quadrupeds; particularly on the two species of Sloth, viz. the Bradypus tridactylus and didactylus, which inhabit the trees of Guiana. Monsieur Sonnini however declares that he is unacquainted with its manners, and does not conceive that these particulars are properly authenticated. He is clear that it does not prey on fish, which, from the appearance of the legs, was surmised by Monsieur Cuvier.

HARPY EAGLE.

Falco Harpya. *F. nigro griseoque varius, subtus albus, crista occipitali bifida, rostro nigro, pedibus flavis.*
Eagle variegated with black and grey; beneath white; with bifid occipital crest, black beak, and yellow legs.
Vultur Harpya. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Falco Harpya. *Lath. ind. orn.*
Aquila brasiliensis cristata. *Brisson.*

THIS bird, which appears to be as yet but imperfectly known to naturalists, is a native of South America, and particularly of Brasil. It seems in some degree doubtful whether it should be considered as an Eagle or a Vulture, and has accordingly been differently arranged by authors, as may be perceived from a consultation of the synonyms following the specific character. Its size is said to be that of a Sheep, and its colour black above, with paler variegations, and white beneath: the tail black, with brown bars; the bill black, and the legs yellow: the head is covered with feathers, and is of a blueish brown colour, the hind part being furnished with a lengthened, bifid crest, which it frequently elevates. It is of a highly ferocious nature, preying on various animals, and is said to be able to cleave a man's skull with a single stroke of his beak.

VAR. ?

The bird described by Jacquin under the name of Vultur coronatus, is by Mr. Latham considered

as a variety of the above. It is found in the mountainous parts of New Grenada, and said to be of the same size with the former; the bill black; the head of a reddish grey, and adorned with a crest composed of several feathers of the length of six inches at least: part of the wings, the neck, and breast are black; the belly white; the thighs white, spotted with black; the tail long, and varied with black and white: the legs very strong, and yellow. When it stands upright, it is two feet and a half in height.

CALQUIN EAGLE.

Falco Calquin. *F. nigro-cærulescens, capite cristato, pectore albo nigro maculato, cauda nigro fuscoque fasciata.*

Blueish-black Eagle, with crested head, white breast spotted with black, and tail barred with black and brown.

Calquin. *Molina Hist. Chil.*

EXTENT, from wing's end to wing's end, ten feet and a half: colour above blue-black; on the head a blue crest: tail barred with black and brown: breast white, spotted with brown. Native of Chili, where it is known by the name of *Calquin*.

ROYAL EAGLE.

Falco regalis. *F. fuscus, albo nigroque maculatus, subtus albus, occipite subcristato, cauda griseo-fasciata.*

Brown Eagle, with black and white spots; beneath white; the head slightly crested, and the tail barred with grey.

L'Ouira Ouassou. *Sonnini Buff.*

Monsieur Sonnini, in his edition of the Count de Buffon's Natural History, describes and figures this bird from a Portuguese manuscript communicated to Monsieur Condamine by an ecclesiastical correspondent at Para in Brazil.

It is a bird of great beauty, having an elegantly varied plumage, and commanding attitudes. Its size is double that of an Eagle; its head large, and furnished with a crest in form of a casque: the bill long; the eyes bright and piercing; the nostrils large, and beset with hair on each side the bill: the neck thick; the legs naked, scaly, and reddish: the claws black, crooked, and of the length of the middle finger: the back, wings, and tail are brown, spotted with black, and variegated with whitish or yellowish streaks; the belly white, the feathers being very soft, and equal in elegance to those of an Egret. It flies with majestic rapidity, and such is the expanse of its wings, that it sometimes strikes and kills its prey with them before it touches it with its claws. Its strength is such as to enable it to tear in pieces in an instant the largest sheep, and it pursues indiscriminately all kind of wild animals. It even dares to attack

mankind; but its principal food consists of Monkies, and particularly those called *Guaribas*, which it kills with its beak, and devours in an instant with extraordinary voracity. Its general residence is on lofty mountains, and it builds its nest on the highest trees, employing for their construction the bones of the animals it has slaughtered, and some dry branches of trees, which it binds together with the stems of climbers. It is said to lay two or three eggs, which are white, spotted with reddish-brown. It is chiefly found about the borders of the river Amazon. Many virtues are attributed to its burnt feathers. Pens are made of its quills, and whistles of its claws.

Such is the account given by Don Laurent Alvarez Roxo de Postflitz, Grand Chanter of the cathedral of Para, and correspondent of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris.

GRIFFARD EAGLE.

Falco Armiger. *F. grisco-fuscus, subtus albus, occipite cristato, remigibus secondariis caudaque albido-fusciatis.*

Grey-brown Eagle, white beneath, with the hind-head crested, and the smaller wing-feathers and tail crossed with whitish bars.

Le Griffard. *Vaill. Ois. Afr. No. 1. Sonnini Buff.*

Nearly the size of the Golden Eagle: colour grey-brown above; white beneath: head paler than the rest of the upper parts, the tips of the feathers alone being coloured, and those of the

hind-head lengthened into a slight, pendent crest: bill blueish, with black tip; irides bright hazel: craw prominent, and covered with fine, silky, white down: larger quill-feathers black; the smaller and the tail transversely barred with blackish and grey bands: claws black, very strong and crooked. Male similar to the female, but somewhat darker coloured. This is a very fierce and ravenous species, preying on the young of Antelopes, on hares, and other of the smaller quadrupeds, and driving away all other birds of prey from its haunts. It builds its eyry either on very tall trees, or on the points of rocks: the nest is very large and flat, and strong enough to bear the weight of a man: the eggs are two in number, round, and perfectly white. Native of the country of Namaquas.

VULTURINE EAGLE.

Falco vulturinus. *F. niger, rostro basi subcæruleo, apice flavo, pedibus flavis, cauda rotundata.*

Black Eagle, with the beak blueish at the base, and yellow at the tip, the legs yellow, and the tail rounded.

Aigle Caffre. *Levaillant. Ois. Afr. pl. 6. Sonnini Buff.*

The size of this species, according to Monsieur Levaillant, is equal to that of the Golden Eagle, and its general colour a deep black, some of the feathers of the back having brownish edges: the bill is very strong and of a pale blue at the base, the tip being yellow: the claws of moderate size,

and not greatly curved: the legs of a dirty yellow, and feathered for three quarters of their length: the tail rounded, and considerably shorter than the wings. Native of Caffraria, where however it is somewhat rare, feeding principally on carrion or carcasses, but will attack sheep, and devour them on the spot.

OCCIPITAL EAGLE.

Falco Occipitalis. *F. niger, occipite cristato, cauda albo varia, pedibus flavis.*

Black Eagle, with crested hind-head, tail variegated with white, and yellow feet.

Le Huppard. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl. 2.*

Nisser Tokoor. *Bruce trav. append. p. 158.*

Falco occipitalis. *Daudin. ois. 2. p. 40.*

This species is described by Mr. Bruce in the appendix to his travels. Mr. Bruce calls it by the name of *Nisser Tokoor* or Black Eagle. "He was altogether, says Mr. Bruce, of a dark brown, or chesnut, leading to black. The whole length, from the extremity of the tail to the nose, was two feet four inches: the breadth, from wing to wing, four feet six inches. He was very lean, and weighed something less than five pounds: the fourth feather of his wing, after the largest, was white: the feathers of the lower side of his tail were of a blueish brown, checkered with white, and those of the upper side of the tail were black and white alternately: his thighs were thick covered with feathers, so were

his legs down to the joining of the foot: his feet were yellow, with strong black claws: the inside of his wings was white with a mixture of brown: his leg, from the joining of the foot, was three inches: his beak, from the point to where the feathers reached, was two inches and a quarter: the length of his crest from the head to the longest feather five inches: the eye was black with a cast of fire-colour in it, the iris yellow, and the whole eye exceedingly beautiful." This bird happened accidentally to straggle into a host of Vultures, which had followed the carnage of a battle, and was struck to the ground by one of those voracious animals, in consequence of which Mr. Bruce had an opportunity of describing it. Mr. Bruce adds, that during the march of an Abyssinian army, there is no giving an idea of the number of Vultures and other ravenous birds hovering in the air and attending it, unless by comparing them to the sand of the sea. "While the army is in motion they are a black canopy, extending over it for leagues."

There can be little doubt that the *Huppard* of Monsieur Levaillant is the same species. It is of the size of a large Buzzard: its general colour is a deep brown, darker beneath the body, but paler on the neck and breast: the quill and tail-feathers are black, with slight grey and white bars, and the feathers of the thighs are mixed with white: the head is ornamented at the back part with a beautiful floating crest, composed of plumes five or six inches in length: the bill is dusky, and the

CROWNED EAGLE

legs covered with brown and white down. It is an inhabitant of Caffraria, preying on partridges, ducks, leverets, &c. It is a bird of very rapid flight, darting like an arrow on its prey. It builds on lofty trees, lining its nest with wool or feathers, and laying roundish eggs, spotted with rufous brown.

CROWNED EAGLE.

Falco coronatus. *F. fuscus, subtus albo nigroque varius, pectore fulvo, crista occipitali bifida.*
Brown Eagle, variegated beneath with black and white; with fulvous breast, and bifid occipital crest.
The Crowned Eagle. *Edwards pl.* 224.
Falco coronatus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*

The first correct describer of this elegant species appears to be Edwards, who observes that it is about a third part less than the larger kind of Eagles, but of equal boldness and strength in proportion.

"The bill," says Edwards, "and the skin that covers the upper mandible, in which the nostrils are placed, are of a dusky brown colour: the corners of the mouth are cleft in pretty deep under the eyes, and are of a yellowish colour: the circles round the eyes are of a reddish orange-colour: the fore part of the head, the space round the eyes, and the throat, are covered with white feathers, with small black spots: the hinder part of the head and neck, the back and wings, are of a dark-brown or

blackish colour, the outer edges of the feathers being of a light brown: the quills are darker than the other feathers of the wings: the ridge in the upper part, and the tips of some of the lesser covert-feathers of the wings are white: the tail is of a brown colour, barred across with black, and on its under side appears of a dark and light ash-colour: the breast is of a reddish brown, with large transverse black spots on its sides: the belly and covert-feathers under the tail, are white, spotted with black: the thighs and legs, down to the feet, are covered with white feathers, beautifully spotted with round black spots: the feet and claws are very strong: the feet are covered with scales of a bright orange-colour: the claws are black: it raises the feathers on the hinder part of the head in the form of a crest or crown, from which it takes its name."

The Crowned Eagle is a native of Africa, and is said to be principally seen in Guinea.

ZONE-TAILED EAGLE.

Falco zonurus. *F. niger, caudæ zona media apiceque albis, occipite subcristato, pedibus flavis.*

Black Eagle, with the middle zone and tip of the tail white, the hind-head slightly crested, and yellow legs.

L'Aigle noir huppé d'Amerique. *Sonnini Buff.*

Size of the Osprey (F. Haliætus.) colour black, the tail white from the base, then crossed by a

broad bar of black, and tipped with white: the bill horn-colour: the space between the bill and eyes on each side naked and beset with bristles: the hind-head furnished with a short crest, in the middle of which is a white spot: the thighs barred with white streaks; the legs long, naked, and yellow; the claws black, and rather weak. Native of South-America, and described by Monsieur Sonnini from a specimen in the Paris Museum.

URUBITINGA EAGLE.

Falco Urubitinga. *F. fuscus, cinereo & nigricante varius, cauda alba, apice nigra albo terminata.*

Brown Eagle, with blackish and ash-coloured variegations, and white tail, with a terminal black band tipped with white.

Urubitinga Brasiliensibus. *Marcgr. Bras. p.* 214.

Falco Urubitinga. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

The description of this species is copied by authors from Marcgrave, who mentions it in his History of Brasil. It is of the size of a half-grown goose: the bill large and black, with a yellow cere: the plumage brown with a blackish mixture; the wings varied with ash-colour, and the tail white, with a black terminal band tipped with white: legs bare and yellow.

From the description of the tail, this bird has been supposed the same with the preceding, but both Monsieur Daudin and Sonnini consider it as very distinct.

CARACCA EAGLE.

Falco Caracca. *F. capite cristato, dorso, alis gulaque nigris, abdomine albo, rectricibus fasciis quatuor cinereis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with crested head, back, wings, and throat black, abdomen white, and tail marked by four ash-coloured bands.

Crested Falcon. *Dillon's travels through Spain. p. 80. pl. 3.*

Caracca Falcon. *Lath. synops.*

Size of a Turkey: the back, wings, and throat are black; the belly white, and the tail marked by four parallel ash-coloured stripes or bands: the bill is strongly hooked, and the feathers of the head are elevated at pleasure in the form of a crest.

Described in Dillon's travels through Spain. It was kept in the Royal Menagerie at the Palace of *Buon Retiro* at *Madrid*.

SUPERB EAGLE.

Falco superbus. *F. fuscus, subfulvo varius, occipite cristato, nucha fulva, abdomine albo nigro maculato.*

Brown Eagle, with subfulvous variegations, crested hind-head, fulvous nape, and white abdomen spotted with black.

L'Aigle moyen de la Guiane. *Sonnini Buff. Mauduyt encycl. meth.?*

Falco ornatus.? *Daudin ois.*

Autour huppé.? *Levaill. ois. Afr. No. 26.*

This bird, says Monsieur Sonnini, I have seen in its native country, but am unacquainted with its

manners, except that, like other birds of the genus, it inhabits the vast forests of Guiana, where it is not uncommon. It is distinguished by a peculiarity of conformation which has escaped the notice of Monsieur Mauduyt, one of its describers, viz. a kind of pendent naked craw, like some of the Vultures. Its length, from the tip of the bill to that of the tail, is twenty-five inches, and the tail exceeds the length of the wings, when closed, by about a third part. The upper part of the head, and the crest, which is composed of five or six feathers, are brown: the back and wings brown, with a few transverse tawny bars, and the tail is alternately barred above with black and pale brown: the sides of the neck are tawny; the throat and breast white, the abdomen white, marked with round and oblong black spots, disposed in such a manner as to form transverse stripes, interrupted by the white ground-colour: the feathers of the thighs and legs are white, striped with black.

A species allied to the above is described and figured in Levaillant's African Birds, under the name of *Autour huppé*, and Monsieur Daudin has called it *Falco ornatus;* but Monsieur Sonnini is doubtful as to the identity of species in these birds; since the *Autour huppé* of Levaillant has the crest black and white; the feathers of the head black, the back of the neck of a deep rufous colour, and the fore part of a reddish white, a black line, which passes from the corners of the mouth, separating the rufous colour of the nape from the white of the throat; while all the fore part of the body is

white, more or less tinged with rufous, and spotted with black; the wings and back of a deep brown, with blackish clouds; and the tail brown with large black bands; the bill blueish with a reddish base, and the feet yellowish with black claws.

It should be added, that Monsieur Levaillant considers this species as a kind of Goshawk rather than Eagle; and Monsieur Daudin in his Ornithology observes, that from the appearance of its bill and strong claws, it probably commits great ravages among the feathered race. Levaillant observes that it is a third larger than the European Goshawk.

MAUDUYT'S EAGLE.

Falco Mauduyti. *F. cristatus supra fusco-nigricans, subtus albus, alis cinereo-fasciatis.*

Crested brownish black Eagle, white beneath, with the wings barred with cinereous.

Falco Mauduyti. *Daud. orn. 2. p. 73.*

Grand Autour de Cayenne. *Mauduyt Enc. Meth.*

Length two feet: bill and cere black: eyelids and skin between the bill and eye covered with hairs: nape ash-colour; the feathers with black shafts, and streaked with white: cheeks white: from behind the eye to the hind-head a black streak: hind-head furnished with a long crest: upper part of the body black-brown; middle of the wing barred with cinereous grey: belly white, barred.

with rufous brown; shins covered with feathers, rufous and white, in rings: tail long, banded alternately with four bands of black and grey: wings, when closed, reaching half way down the tail: toes yellow. The female is larger, and is destitute of the crest. This species belongs rather to the Buzzard or Falcon tribe than to the Eagles.

SONNINI'S EAGLE.

Falco Sonnini. *F. fuscus, pennis intus albis, remigibus rectricibusque albo-fasciatis.*

Brown Eagle, with the feathers white within; those of the wings and tail barred with white.

Petit Aigle de la Guiane. *Sonnini Buff.*

This small Eagle, according to Sonnini, has not yet been described by any other naturalist. Its length is but twenty-two inches, and the legs are feathered down to the toes: the hind-head is crested by feathers about an inch longer than the rest: the wings, when closed, extend rather more than half the length of the tail. The whole bird, when at rest, appears of an uniform brown colour; but when it spreads its wings and prepares for motion, it appears every where varied with white, the quills and tail being barred with that colour, but the white is brighter beneath than above: the feet are yellow.

We must observe that this species is a very different bird from the following one, which is described under the same title by Mr. Mauduyt

in the Encyclopedie Methodique; and Monsieur Sonnini is even inclined to doubt the existence of Monsieur Mauduyt's bird, as described by him. I shall give a new title to the bird, in order to prevent confusion.

DELICATE EAGLE.

Falco delicatus. *F. cristatus albus, remigibus caudaque griseo nigroque fasciatis, cristæ penna media elongata, apice nigra.*
Crested white Eagle, with the wings and tail barred with black and grey; the middle feather of the crest elongated, and marked with a black spot at the tip.
Petit Aigle de la Guiane. *Mauduyt Encyc. Meth.*

Its length is twenty-one inches, and the plumage in general is entirely white, except the quills and tail, the feathers of which are banded chequerwise with grey and black, so that the colours on each side the shaft oppose each other: the hind-head is crested; one of the feathers, which is much longer than the rest, being marked at the end with a black spot: the wings, when closed, reach two thirds of the tail. Native of Guiana.

CHEELA EAGLE.

Falco Cheela. *F. fuscus, occipite leviter subcristato, tectricibus albo maculatis, cauda fascia media alba.*

Brown Eagle, with the hind-head very slightly crested, the wing coverts spotted with white, and a white bar across the middle of the tail.

Falco Cheela. *Lath. ind. orn.*

Cheela Eagle. *Lath. Synops.*

A LARGE species, measuring two feet in length. It is of a stout make, and of a deep brown colour, but on each side the head, before the eyes, is a mixture of white: the wing-coverts and thighs are marked with small white spots, and the tail is crossed in the middle by a white band: the bill is blue at the base, and black at the tip: the irides and legs pale yellow; and the feathers on the back of the head are slightly lengthened, though scarcely so much as to constitute a crest. Native of India, where it is called *Cheela*.

SPOTTED EAGLE.

Falco maculatus. *F. nigricans, alis albo maculatis, cauda apice albida.*

Blackish Eagle, with the wings spotted with white, and the tail whitish at the tip.

Falco maculatus. *Lath. ind. orn.*

Spotted Eagle. *Lath. synops.*

Morphno congener. ? *Raii syn, p. 7. Will. orn. p. 63.*

Size of the preceding, measuring two feet in length: colour deep, rusty, blackish brown, the wing-coverts and scapulars each marked with an oval white spot at the end; the spots becoming gradually larger as they descend, so that the shoulders appear dashed with oblong marks, while the middle of the wings exhibit large oval spots: the back-feathers are spotted with rust-colour, and the feathers on the top of the head and neck, which are of a narrow form, are tipped with pale ferruginous: the larger quill-feathers are deep brown, the smaller tipped with dull white; the upper tail coverts and the tip of the tail are also whitish: the thighs are dashed with longitudinal whitish stripes: the bill is black, and the feet yellow, the legs being feathered down to the toes. Native of Europe, and is said to be frequent in Russia. It is of a less spirited disposition than other Eagles of its size, and is remarkable for its plaintive cry. It has been sometimes trained to Falconry; but in its

wild state has been the occasional victim of that amusement, and has been subdued and brought to the ground even by so small a bird as a Sparrow-Hawk.

RING-TAILED EAGLE.

Falco fulvus. *F. nigro-ferrugineus, cera flava, cruribus plumosis, digitis flavis, cauda fascia alba.*
Black-ferruginous Eagle, with yellow cere, feathered legs, yellow feet, and tail crossed by a white bar.
Falco fulvus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Ring-tailed Eagle. *Will. orn. p. 59.*
Black Eagle. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*
White-tailed Eagle. *Edwards pl. 1.*
L'Aigle Commun. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 86.*

This species is by Mr. Pennant and some others called the *Black Eagle*, from the dark colour of the plumage, which however is in reality a very deep subferruginous brown, the upper half or base of the tail being white, the remainder deep brown; the bill is horn-coloured, with a yellow cere, and the feet, which are feathered to the toes, are yellow likewise. In size this species equals the Golden Eagle, and of similar manners. It is a native both of Europe and North-America, varying in that part of the world from the European specimens in having the breast marked with small, triangular white spots. In our own island it is chiefly seen in Scotland, where it is very destruc-

tive to the smaller animals, and will even seize on roebucks, &c.

Mr. Willughby thus describes its nest. "In the year of our Lord 1668, in the woodlands, near the river Derwent in the Peak of Derbyshire, was found an Eagle's nest, made of great sticks, resting one end on the ledge of a rock, and the other on two birch-trees, upon which was a layer of rushes, and over them a layer of heath, and upon the heath rushes again; upon which lay one young one, and an addle egg, and by them a lamb and a hare, and three heath-poults. The nest was about two yards square, and had no hollow in it. The young Eagle was as black as a Hobby, of the shape of a Goshawk, of almost the weight of a Goose, rough-footed, or feathered down to the foot, having a white ring about the tail."

Mr. Willughby's description of the nest reminds us of a curious anecdote given in the life of the celebrated Thuanus or De Thou, viz. that when himself and Monsieur Schomberg were passing through that part of France, on an embassy from Henry the third to the King of Navarre, they were entertained for some days, together with their suite, at Mande, the seat of the Bishop and Count of Gevaudan. At the first repast, it was observed, with some surprise, that all the wild-fowl or game brought to table wanted either a head, a wing, a leg, or some other part, which occasioned their host pleasantly to apologize for the voracity of his caterer, who always took the liberty of first tasting

what he had procured, before it was brought to table. On perceiving the increased surprise of his guests, he informed them that in the mountainous regions of that district the Eagles were accustomed to build their eyries among the almost inaccessible rocks, which can only be ascended with ladders and grappling-irons. The peasants however, when they have discovered a nest, raise a little hut at the foot of a rock, in which they screen themselves from the fury of the birds when they convey provision to their young, which the male carefully nourishes for the space of three months, and the female continues the employment till the young are capable of quitting the eyry. While the young continue in the eyry, the parents ravage all the country, and convey to the nest Capons, Chickens, Ducks, Lambs, Kids, Pigs, &c. but the fields and woods supply them with the choicest game, for from thence they seize Pheasants, Partridges, Woodcocks, Wild-Ducks, Hares, and young Fawns. When therefore the shepherds perceive that the Eagles have left the eyry, they plant their ladders, climb the rocks, and carry off what the Eagles have conveyed to the young; leaving instead the entrails of animals or other offal; but as this cannot be done so expeditiously as to prevent the young Eagles from devouring a part of what has been brought them, it follows that it is generally mutilated; in recompence however for this disadvantage, it has a much finer flavour than any thing the markets can afford. He added, that when the young Eagle has acquired strength

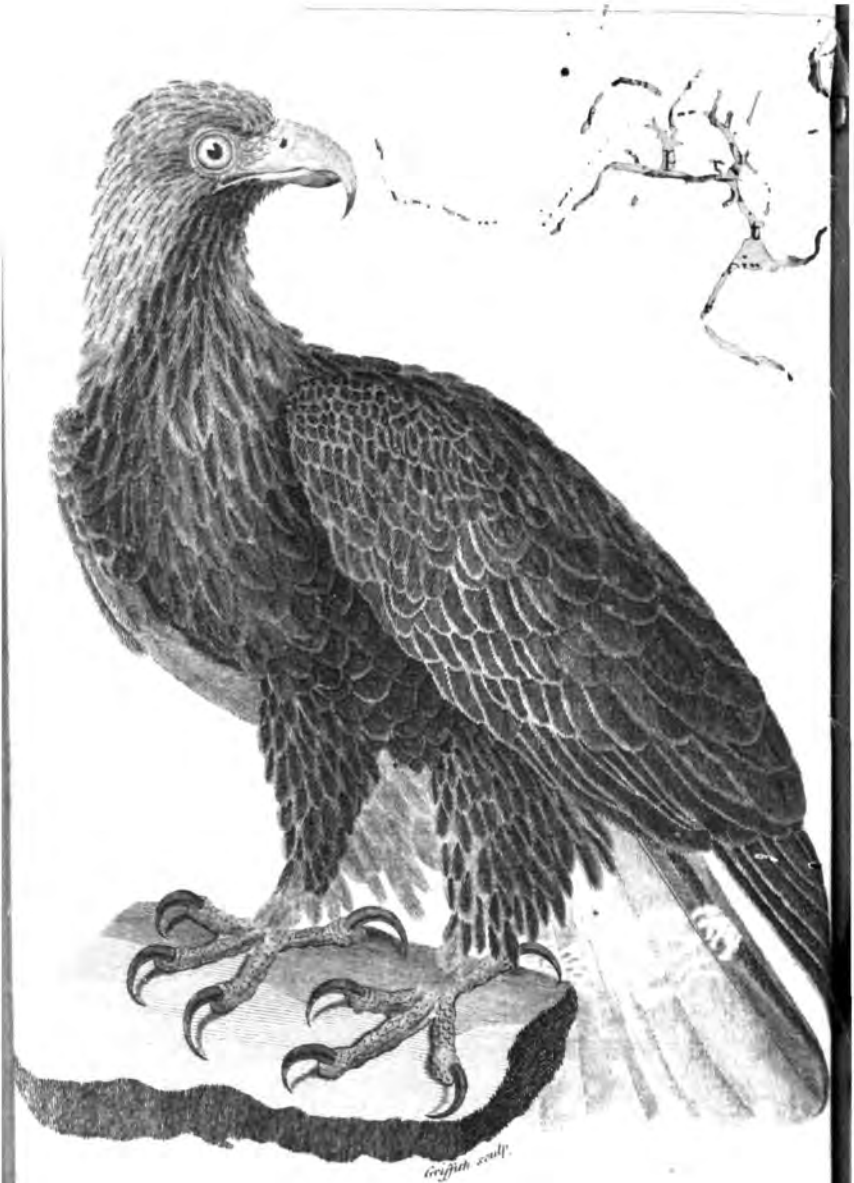
enough to fly, the shepherds fasten him to the eyry, in order that the parent birds may supply him so much the longer with food; that three or four Eagle's nests were sufficient to furnish a splendid table throughout the year; and that, far from murmuring at the ravages of Eagles, he thought himself very happy in being situated in their neighbourhood, and reckoned every eyry as a kind of annual rent.

Var.?

BLACK EAGLE.

Falco Melanäetus. *F. cera lutea, pedibus semilanatis, corpore ferugineo-nigricante, striis flavis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Blackish-ferruginous Eagle with yellow streaks, half-feathered legs, and luteous cere.
Black Eagle. *Lath. synops.*

Length two feet ten inches: general colour blackish, the head and upper part of the neck mixed with rufous: lower half of the tail white with blackish spots; the end-part blackish: bill horn-colour; legs covered with dusky-white feathers: feet yellow. Native of Europe. Perhaps a sexual difference of the Ring-tailed Eagle. It is to be observed that this is the Black Eagle of Willughby, and that the Ring-tailed Eagle is the Black Eagle of Pennant.



GOLDEN EAGLE

GOLDEN EAGLE.

Falco Chrysaetos. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, rostro plumbeo, cera pedibusque flavis, cauda basi cinereo-undulata.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with lead-coloured beak, yellow cere and feet, and tail clouded with ash-colour at the base.

Falco Chrysäetos. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Golden Eagle. *Will. orn. p. 58. Penn. Brit. Zool.*

Le Grand Aigle. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 76.*

L'Aigle doré. *Briss. av. 1. p. 431.*

This is regarded as the chief of the European Eagles. Its general length, according to Pennant, and others, is three feet, and the breadth seven feet four inches; but the Count de Buffon informs us that the female is considerably larger, and Willughby, without mentioning the sex, states the length at full three feet nine inches. The bill is three inches long, and of a deep lead colour, with a yellow cere: the irides bright, golden hazel-colour; the head and neck are covered with narrow, sharp-pointed feathers of a deep brown colour, edged with tawny, particularly those on the hind part of the head: the whole body is of a dark brown colour with ferruginous or tawny clouds: the large wing-feathers are deep brown, with white shafts; and the tail brown, the base being generally marked with irregular ash-coloured bars or blotches: the legs are yellow, short, and very strong, being three inches in circumference, and feathered to the very feet, which are covered with large scales, and armed with most formidable

claws, the middle of which are two inches or more in length.

The Golden Eagle is a native of several parts of Europe and Asia, building its eyry or nest on the summits of rocks, &c.; the nest, like that of the Ring-tailed Eagle, is flat, extremely large, and composed of twigs and branches, interlaced and covered by layers of rushes, heath, &c. The female is said to lay two eggs, or three at the most, one of which is generally unproductive.

The Golden Eagle has the reputation of great longevity, and is said to have survived a century.

Var.?

WHITE EAGLE.

Falco cygneus. *F. totus albus. Lath. ind. orn.*
Eagle entirely white.
Aquila alba cygnea. *Klein. Hist. av. p.* 42. *Aldrov. av. p.* 231. *Gesn. av. p.* 199.
L'Aigle blanc. *Briss. av.* 1. *p.* 424.

Size of the Golden Eagle, and entirely white as snow. Mentioned by Albertus Magnus, and from him by Gesner and Aldrovandus, and succeeding writers. Albertus says it inhabits the Alps, and the rocks on the borders of the Rhine; and that it preys not only on hares, rabbets, &c. but sometimes on fish, for which reason Aldrovandus supposes it to be more allied to the Osprey than to any other kind of Eagle. It does not appear

to be known to modern naturalists. Monsieur Sonnini supposes it to be the same with the following.

CONCILIATING EAGLE.

Falco Conciliator. *F. candidus, alis apice nigris.*
White Eagle, with the tips of the wings black.
White Eagle. *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

This is mentioned by Du Pratz in his History of Louisiana, and is said to be a highly beautiful and rare species. It is entirely or very nearly white, except the tips of the wings, which are black. It is much esteemed by the natives of Louisiana on account of its feathers, with which they adorn the Calumet or Pipe of peace, which is described as consisting of a very long reed, ornamented with feathers, the bowl being made of a kind of soft red marble. This instrument always appears in solemn congresses for determining peace or war. Its acceptance, by smoking for a few moments with it, is a mark of concurrence with the terms proposed; and the refusal a certain mark of rejection. Even in the rage of a conflict the Calumet is sometimes offered; and if accepted, the instruments of destruction suddenly drop from the hands of the warriors, and an immediate truce ensues.

WHITE-HEADED EAGLE.

Falco leucocephalus. *F. cera lutea pedibusque semilanatis, corpore fusco, capite caudaque albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Brown Eagle, with white head and tail, half-feathered legs, and yellow cere and feet.
Bald Eagle. *Catesby Carol.* 1. *pl.* 1.

Length three feet three inches. Colour dark brown, except the head and tail, which are white: the bird however does not acquire the white head till the second year. It is a bird of great spirit; preying on fawns, lambs, fish, &c. "It is, says Mr. Pennant, the terror of the Osprey, whose motions it watches. The moment the latter has seized a fish, the former pursues till the Osprey drops its prey, which, with amazing dexterity, it catches before it falls to the ground, be the distance ever so great. This is matter of great amusement to the inhabitants of North America, who often watch their aerial contests."

According to Catesby this Eagle builds in vast decayed cypresses or pines, impending over the sea, or some great river, in company with Ospreys, Herons, and other birds, and the nests are so numerous as to resemble a rookery. Lawson, in his History of Carolina, says that it breeds very often, laying again under the callow young, whose warmth hatches the eggs.

CINEREOUS EAGLE.

Falco Albicilla*. *F. fusco-cinereus, capite colloque canis, cauda alba.*

Brown-cinereous Eagle, with grey head and neck, and white tail.

Vultur Albiulla. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*

The Pygarg or White-tailed Eagle. *Will. orn. p. 61.*

Cinereous Eagle. *Latham and Pennant.*

In size equal or nearly equal to the Black Eagle, Native of Europe as far North as Iceland and Lapmark, and is common in Greenland, but according to Pennant, does not proceed into America, strictly so called, unless it should vary into the White-headed Eagle, to which it has great affinity, and in particular, in its feeding so much on fish. It is said to inhabit Greenland the whole year, making its nest on lofty cliffs with twigs; lining the middle with mosses and feathers, and laying two eggs. It is found in Scotland and in the Orkney islands.

The beak, cere, and irides are of a very pale yellow; the space between that and the eyes bare, and of a blueish colour: the head and neck pale ash-colour: the body and wings cinereous, clouded with brown; the quill-feathers very dark: the tail white: the legs feathered but little below the knees, and of a very light yellow. The male is of a darker colour than the female.

* In the Systema Naturæ, by a typographical error, *Albiulla*.

Var.?

SMALLER WHITE-TAILED EAGLE.

Falco Hinnularius. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, capite colloque ... cauda alba.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with grey head and neck, and white tail.

Erne. *Gesn. av. p.* 205.

Le petit Pygargue. *Buff. ois.*

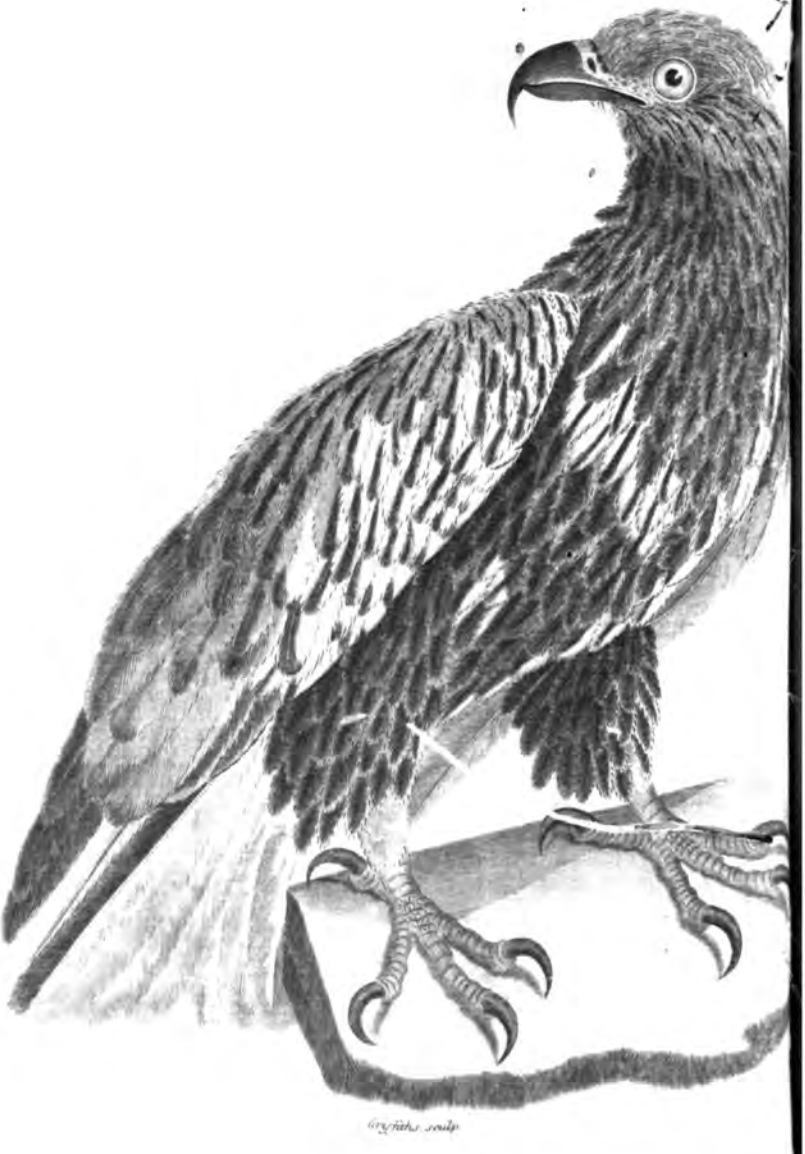
Lesser White-tailed Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

Size of a large Cock: length two feet two inches: bill, cere, and irides yellow: plumage above dull rust-colour, beneath ferruginous, mixed with blackish: head and neck ash-coloured, inclining to chesnut; the tips of the feathers blackish: tail white: legs yellow and naked. Inhabits Europe, and is supposed by Buffon, with great probability, to be no other than a variety of the preceding.

Var.?

AUSTRALASIN CINEREOUS EAGLE.

This is mentioned (perhaps from a drawing) by Mr. Latham, in his second Supplement, under the article *Cinereous Eagle.* Its size is said to be large, and the general colour of the plumage deep brown, but the under parts much paler, and the wings much darker than the rest: the rump and tail very pale ash-colour, nearly white; and the bill and legs black. Native of New Holland.



Griffiths sculp.

SEA EAGLE

SEA EAGLE.

Falco Ossifragus. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, cruribus seminudis flavis, rectricibus albo-nebulosis.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with half-naked yellow legs, and tail feathers clouded with white.

Falco Ossifragus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Sea Eagle or Osprey. *Will. orn. p. 59.*

Sea Eagle. *Lath. & Penn.*

L'Orfraie. *Buff. ois. 1. p. 112.*

Equal, and sometimes superior in size to the Golden Eagle, to which it bears a general resemblance, and for which it has been often mistaken. Exclusive however of its much lighter colour, an invariable specific difference is afforded by the legs, which are feathered but a little way below the knees. It is a native of Europe, and is also found in North America. It preys principally on fish, which it seizes by darting down upon them, while swimming near the surface: it also preys occasionally on birds and other animals, and Mr. Pennant affirms that the Eagle represented by Barlow* with a cat in its talons is of this kind. The artist was an eye-witness to the spectacle, and in the conflict both animals fell to the ground.

The American variety is superior in size to the European; is clouded and spotted with white, and has the legs feathered half way down. It is very common in the northern parts of America, preying both on sea and land fowls, and on young seals, which it seizes while swimming.

* Barlow's Plates. No. 36.

OSPREY EAGLE.

Falco Haliætus. *F. supra fuscus, subtus albus, capite albido, cera pedibusque cæruleis.*

Brown Eagle, white beneath, with whitish head, and blue cere and legs.

Falco Haliætus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Haliætus. *Aldrov. p.* 188. *Morphnos. p.* 211.

The Bald Buzzard. *Will. orn. p.* 69.

Balbuzardus Anglorum, Bald Buzzard, or Sea Eagle. *Raii syn.*

Osprey. *Penn. Brit. Zool. Lath. syn.*

Le Balbuzard. *Buff. ois.*

The names of this and the preceding species, to use an expression of Sir Thomas Brown, present a puzzling homonymy; both being called by different writers by the name of Osprey and Sea Eagle. Its size is much inferior to that of the Falco Ossifragus, and its proportions more approach to those of the Falcon tribe. Its general length seems to be about two feet. A female observed by Mr. Pennant measured twenty-three inches in length, and five feet four inches in breadth. The bill is black, with a blue cere: the irides yellow: most of the feathers of the head brown with white margins: the hind-head, throat, and neck white, with very little mixture of brown: on each side the neck, beginning from beneath the eye, is a band of brown, reaching almost to the shoulders: the body is brown above, and white beneath: the tail-feathers transversly barred with white on the inner webs; the two middle feathers

being plain brown: the legs are naked, short, strong, and of a blueish colour, and the claws remarkably large, hooked, and black. This bird is well figured in the folio edition of the British Zoology, which figure is repeated, on a smaller scale, in the *Faunula*, annexed by Mr. Pennant to Mr. Lightfoot's *Flora Scotica*.

The Osprey frequents rivers, lakes, and the sea shores, preying on fish, which it plunges after into the water with great rapidity, and bringing them up in its talons, retires to a small distance to devour them. It also preys occasionally on water-fowl, &c.

In the Arctic Zoology it is observed that the American Osprey perfectly resembles the European. Notwithstanding it is so persecuted by the White-Headed Eagle, yet it always keeps near its haunts. It is a species of vast quickness of sight; and will see a fish near the surface from a great distance; then, descending with prodigious rapidity, carries the prey, with an exulting scream, high in the air. The Eagle pursues, and attacks the Osprey, which often drops the fish, and the Eagle seizes it before it reaches the ground. It sometimes happens that the Osprey perishes in seizing its prey; for if it chances to fix its talons on an over-grown fish, it is drawn under water before it can disengage itself, and is drowned.

The Osprey, according to Mr. Pennant, builds its nest on the ground, among reeds, and lays three or four white eggs of an elliptical form, and rather less than those of a hen.

ROUGH-FOOTED EAGLE.

Falco nævius. *F. cera iridibus pedibusque lanatis luteis, corpore ferrugineo, rectricibus basi apiceque albis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Ferruginous Eagle, with cere, irides, and feathered legs yellow, and tail white at the base and tip.
Le Petit Aigle. *Buff. ois.*
L'Aigle tacheté. *Briss. av.*
Rough-Footed Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

Described by Brisson and others as of the size of a large Cock: length two feet seven inches and a half: cere and irides yellow: general colour dull ferruginous, the wings beneath and the thighs spotted with white: under tail-coverts white: legs covered to the toes with dull ferruginous feathers spotted with white: feet yellow; claws black. Inhabits Europe, and is said to prey chiefly on rats. Brisson supposes it to be the *Morphno congener* of Aldrovandus, but Mr. Latham applies that synonym to a different species.

ASTRACHAN EAGLE.

Falco Astracanus. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, dorso abdomineque albis ferrugineo maculatis, cauda fasciis quatuor albidis.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with the back and abdomen white with ferruginous spots, and the tail crossed by four pale bars.

Falco ferox. *S. G. Gmelin nov. comm. petrop.* 15. *t.* 10.

Fierce Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

LENGTH two feet one inch: head and neck tawny, mixed with whitish: eyelids blue; irides yellow: bill blackish lead-colour, with green cere. Plumage brown; dorsal, abdominal, and uropygial feathers white, with ferruginous spots: tail even, brown, marked with four paler bars. Found about the neighbourhood of Astrachan, and said to be a very ferocious as well as voracious bird, devouring carrion as well as living prey. Monsieur Sonnini doubts whether it may not be a mere variety of the Falco Fulvus.

BLACK-BACKED EAGLE.

Falco melanotus. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, gula pectore dorsoque nigris, cauda nigra basi alba.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with the throat, breast, and back black, the tail black with a white base.

Black-Backed Eagle. *Brown's Illustrations of Zoology. pl. 2. Lath. synops.*

Said to be of the size of the Golden Eagle; and is of similar colour, but with the fore part of the neck and breast, the back and quills black: the tail, from the base to the middle, white; the end-half black: the bill black, with a yellow cere, the legs yellow, but covered to the toes with ferruginous feathers. Native place unknown. Described merely from a figure in Brown's Illustrations of Zoology, and, as Sonnini very properly observes, may be no other than a mere variety of the Black Eagle, (Aigle Commun Buff.) It is at all times dangerous to describe animals merely from figures, unless we could be well assured that the artist was himself a Zoologist.

MOGILNIK EAGLE.

Falco Mogilnik. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, dorso albo variato, rostro nigro, cruribus lanatis, pedibus flavis.*
Brown-ferruginous Eagle, with the back varied with white, the legs feathered, and the feet yellow.
Falco Mogilnik. *S. G. Gmelin. nov. comm. petrop.* 15. *t.* 11. *β.*
Russian Eagle. *Lath. synops.*
Le Mogilnik. *Sonnini Buff.*

Length two feet three inches: plumage dusky ferruginous, or dark, with the back slightly varied by an intermixture of white: wings spotted or varied beneath with white: tail black, with a few grey bars, and tipped with ferruginous: legs feathered to the toes, which are yellow: bill black: Inhabits the midst of the deserts which border the river Tanais, and often seen about the environs of the town of *Tschercask*. Its manners are not those of the nobler Eagles, feeding principally on field-mice, small birds, &c.

BLACK-CHEEKED EAGLE.

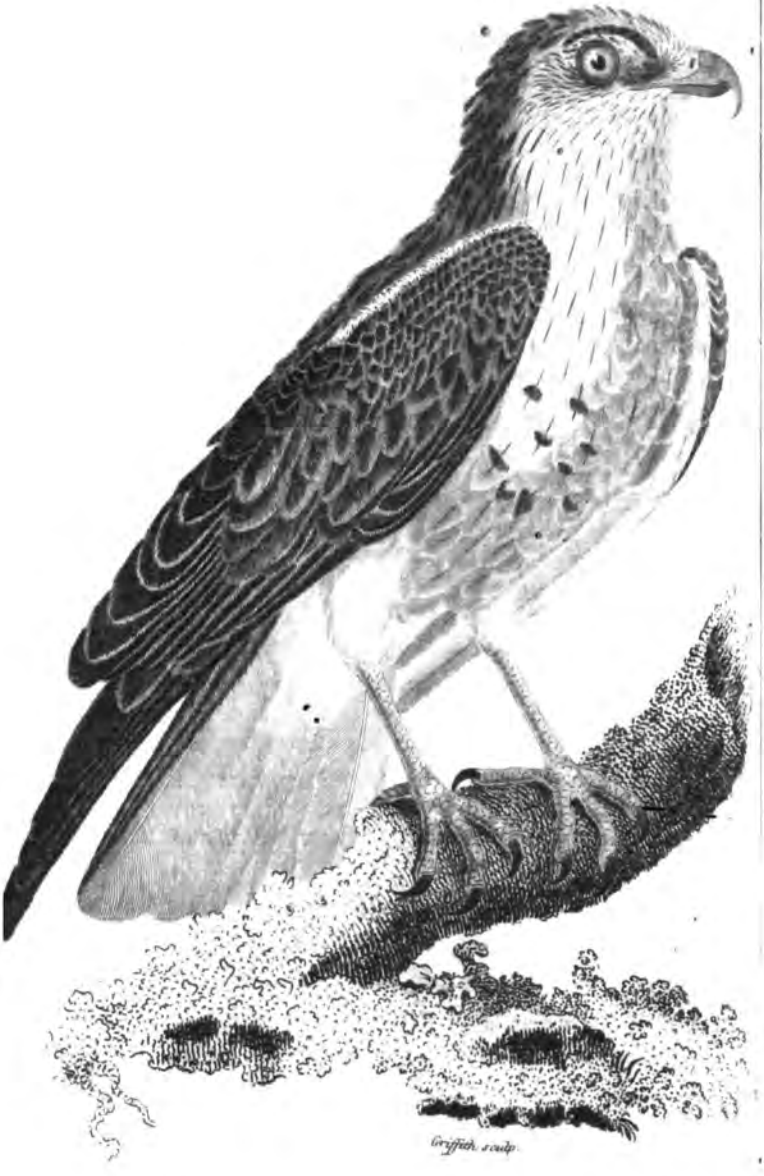
Falco Americanus. *F. niger, capite collo pectoreque cinereis, fascia genarum transversa nigra.*
Black Eagle, with the head, neck, and breast cinereous, and a black bar across the cheeks.
Black-Cheeked Eagle. *Penn. Arct. Zool. Lath. synops.*
Falco Americanus. *Lath. ind. orn. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Size of *Falco fulvus*. Head, neck, and breast deep ash-colour: each cheek marked with a broad black bar, passing from the corner of the mouth beyond the eyes: back, belly, wings, and tail black: bill lead-coloured; legs yellow, and feathered below the knees. Native of North America, and suspected by Mr. Pennant to be the species figured by Robert, among the Birds of the Menagery of Louis the fourteenth.

CHINESE EAGLE.

Falco Sinensis. *F. ferrugineus, subtus flavescens, alis caudaque fusco-fasciatis, cera pedibusque flavis.*
Ferruginous Eagle, yellowish beneath, with the wings and tail barred with brown, and yellow cere and legs.
Chinese Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

Described and figured by Mr. Latham from a Chinese drawing lent him by Mr. Pennant. Size said to be little inferior to that of an Eagle: colour of the head and all the upper parts ferruginous,



FRENCH EAGLE

with a broad dusky bar across the wing-coverts, and two or three across the tail: quill-feathers dusky: bill black: thighs clothed with long feathers, feet and cere yellow: the whole under part of the bird is yellowish buff-colour, and its habit or general shape seems to resemble that of the larger Falcons. In another drawing which Mr. Latham observed in a collection on sale, was a figure which seemed to be the same bird with some variations; the head being furnished with a variegated crest, and the under parts with black markings.

FRENCH EAGLE.

Falco Gallicus. *F. rostro cinereo, pedibus nudis flavicantibus, corpore griseo-fusco, subtus (mari) albido, maculis rufescente-fuscis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with cinereous bill, naked yellowish legs, and grey-brown body, (in the male white beneath, with rufous-brown spots.)

Jean Le Blanc. *Buff. ois. Lath. syn. Pl. Enl.* 413.

This, says Mr. Latham, does not fall far short of the Black Eagle, its length being two feet one inch. The colour of the bill is cinereous; the irides yellow; the parts above grey-brown; beneath white, spotted with rufous brown: the outsides and tips of the tail-feathers are brown, within white, transversly streaked with brown: legs yellowish, naked; claws cinereous. This bird is common in

France, but seems to be rare in other parts of Europe. It feeds in the manner of the Buzzard, on mice, frogs, &c. and makes its nest on the ground, among heath, broom, furze, &c. and sometimes, though rarely, on tall trees. It lays generally three eggs, of a grey slate-colour. The female is almost entirely grey.

WHITE-CROWNED EAGLE.

Falco Leucoryphos. *F. cera cinerea, pedibus semilanatis albidis, corpore nebuloso-fusco, macula verticis trigona gulaque tota alba. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with cinereous cere, half-feathered whitish legs, body clouded with brown, the throat white, and a white trigonal spot on the head.

Falco Leucoryphos. *Pall. reise. 1. p. 454.*

White-Crowned Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

This species is described in the travels of Dr. Pallas, who discovered it in the southern parts of Siberia. Its size is equal to that of an Osprey, to which it bears some resemblance, but the limbs are longer. It measures six feet in breadth, and weighs nearly six pounds. The bill is strait at the base, and the cere is of a livid ash-colour, the irides grey-brown, with a black outer circle: the head grey-brown, with a triangular white spot on the crown; the throat white; the sides of the head darker than the rest, as in the Osprey: the upper part of the body is of a clouded brown colour; the parts beneath the same, but paler: the second

coverts have grey margins: the quills are very dark; the tail longish, even at the end, black at the tip, and white beneath; some of the side-feathers are dotted within with white: the legs are pale, one third of the shins being covered with feathers.

PONDICHERRY EAGLE.

Falco Ponticerianus. *F. castaneus, capite collo pectoreque albis, cera cærulea, pedibus flavis.*

Chesnut-coloured Eagle, with white head, neck, and breast, blue cere, and yellow feet.

Aigle de Pondicherry. *Buff. ois. p.* 136. *Pl. enl.* 416.

Pondicherry Eagle. *Lath. syn. Nat. Misc. vol.* 10. *pl.* 389.

A HIGHLY elegant species, equal, or nearly equal in size to a Jerfalcon. Length about a foot and a half: head, neck, breast, and upper part of the abdomen white, the remainder of the bird reddish chesnut-colour, the wings slightly tipped with black: bill and legs yellow: cere blue. In the bird described by the Count de Buffon the shafts of the neck and breast feathers are dashed with a chesnut streak; but in a specimen preserved in the British Museum these parts are entirely white. It is an inhabitant of many parts of India, and in Malabar is esteemed a sacred bird. It is extremely voracious, flying in company with Kites, and feeding not only on living prey, but on the entrails and other remains of dead animals.

STATENLAND EAGLE.

Falco Australis, *F. fuscus, cera flava, cauda nigra apice lutescente. Lath. ind. orn.*
Brown Eagle, with yellow cere, and black tail with a yellowish tip.
Statenland Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

Size of the Plaintive Vulture: length twenty-five inches: cere yellow; body brown; tail black, tipped with yellowish white. Observed in Statenland by Dr. G. R. Forster. Its cry exactly resembles that of a Hen.

AUSTRALASIAN WHITE EAGLE.

Falco Albus. *F. albus, rostro nigro, cera pedibusque flavis.*
White Eagle, with black beak, and yellow cere and legs.
Falco Novæ Hollandiæ. *Lath. ind. orn.*
New Holland White Eagle. *Lath. syn.*
White Hawk. *White's Journ. of Voy. to New South Wales. p.* 250.

Length about twenty inches, the size being rather superior to that of a Hen-Harrier, to which it appears to be considerably allied. The whole plumage is white, without any variegation; the bill black with a yellow cere, and the legs yellow. Native of New Holland. In Mr. White's Voyage to New South Wales I have described this bird under the title of *White Hawk*, and indeed it

seems rather to belong to that tribe than to the Eagles properly so called.

ALBESCENT EAGLE.

Falco albescens. *F. albescens subcristatus, supra fusco-flavescente varius, cauda nigra albo-fasciata.*

Whitish subcristated Eagle, varied above with yellowish brown, with black tail barred with white.

Le Blanchard. *Levaillant ois. Afr. No.* 3.

About a third less than the Golden Eagle, and of a more slender shape: plumage soft, whitish, and slightly tinged with yellow-brown, especially on the upper parts: quill-feathers brownish: tail barred with black and white, and longer than the wings: legs feathered to the feet, which are of a bright yellow: bill lead-colour: on the back of the head a slight crest, less conspicuous in the female.

This species is an inhabitant of the parts of Africa bordering on the Cape of Good Hope, and was observed by Levaillant in the Woods of the country of the *Hottniquas*. It is a bird of bold manners, and of rapid flight; preying on partridges, pigeons, &c. It suffers no other bird of prey to come near its haunt, but, if we may rely on the attestation of Monsieur Vaillant, will permit small birds to reside near it, and even to perch upon its nest, without offering them any violence; and even protecting them against the attacks of other rapacious birds. The nest is built on the

top of some high tree, and contains two white eggs of the size of those of a Turkey, but rounder. The male and female perform the task of incubation in turn.

VOCIFEROUS EAGLE.

Falco Vocifer. *F. fusco-ferrugineus, nigro undulatus, capite, collo pectore caudaque albis.*

Brown-ferruginous Eagle, undulated with black, with the head, neck, breast and tail white.

Le Vocifer. *Vaill. ois. Afr. pl.* 4.

This, according to Monsieur Levaillant, its discoverer, is one of the finest of the whole Aquiline tribe, and is not only distinguished by the beauty of its colours, but by the elegance of its shape. It is equal in size to an Osprey*, (Orfraie.) The fore parts of the body, and the tail, are white; the remainder rufous brown intermixed with black; but, to be more particular; the feathers of the head and neck are white with brown edges, and the scapular-feathers are of similar colour: those of the breast have a few longitudinal dashes of blackish brown: the rest of the plumage is brown-ferruginous, undulated with black: the smaller wing-coverts are of a paler cast, and the neighbouring scapular-feathers are mixed with black, and

* Monsieur Levaillant, I presume, means the *Falco Haliætus*, but the *Orfraie* of the French is the Falco *Ossifragus*.

form an agreeable contrast with the white of the others which extend in a pointed form down the back: the wing-feathers are black, and as it were finely marbled with rufous and white on their exterior sides: the lower part of the back and upper tail-coverts are black intermixed with dull white: between the beak and eye is a bare yellowish skin, beset with scattered hairs: the base of the beak, the legs, and the feet are also yellowish: the feathers of the thighs descend about half an inch down the leg in front: the beak and claws are of a blue horn-colour: the craw, which is slightly visible, is covered with long, frizzled down: the tail is slightly rounded; the side feathers being shortest, and the others successively lengthening to the two middle-feathers. The female has much less of the black in its plumage; the white is less pure, and the rufous brown less deep: the female however is stronger than the male. The wings, when closed, reach to the extremity of the tail, and their extent, when spread, is nearly eight feet. It is not till the third year that this species acquires its full colours. In its first year the grey prevails instead of the white: in the second the white commences; and in the third the plumage appears in complete beauty. The male and female are inseparable companions, hunting their prey, flying, and resting together. Like most other Eagles, they place their nest either on the top of lofty trees, or on the points of rocks, and line it with wool, feathers, &c. the eggs are white, and

of the same shape with those of a Turkey, but whiter.

The flight of these birds is rapid, and they rise to a vast height, the male often uttering a loud and singular cry. Their principal prey is fish, which they seize by plunging with incredible celerity into the water. They therefore constantly frequent the neighbourhood of the sea shore, or that of such rivers as abound most in fish. They also feed on a kind of large lizard, very common, according to Monsieur Vaillant, in many of the African rivers, and will even sometimes prey on young Antelopes, but never on birds.

BLAGRE EAGLE.

Falco Blagrus. *F. fuscus, capite collo cauda corporeque subtus toto albis. Lath. Suppl. ind. orn.* 2. *No.* 18.
Brown Eagle, with the head, neck, tail, and whole body beneath white.
Le Blagre. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl.* 5.

This is so nearly allied, both in form and manners, to the European Osprey, (Falco Haliætus) that it might be considered as a variety of that bird. The head, neck, and all the foreparts of the body are white with a satin lustre, but the head and back of the neck are streaked with pale brown: the smaller wing-coverts, shoulders, and tail are grey-brown; the latter being tipped with

white: the wings are blackish brown, with paler edges: the beak brownish, and the iris deep brown: the legs yellow, and the claws black. It frequents the borders of rivers, preying on fish, which it plunges entirely under water to seize.

ÆQUINOCTIAL EAGLE.

Falco æquinoctialis. *F. pedibus luteis, corpore nigricante ferrugineo vario, remigibus medio ferrugineis, rectricibus V albo notatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Eagle with luteous cere, blackish body varied with ferruginous, wing-feathers ferruginous in the middle, and tail marked with V-shaped white spots.

Æquinoctial Eagle. *Lath. syn.*

Native of Cayenne: length twenty-one inches: bill pale: body rufous beneath, with dusky transverse streaks, each feather being barred with four stripes: wings reaching to one third of the tail, which is nearly black, with the two middle feathers plain, and all the rest marked about the middle with a white V-shaped spot, pointing upwards.

MANSFENY EAGLE.

Falco Antillarum. *F. corpore toto fusco. Lath. ind. orn.*
Eagle with the body entirely brown.
Mansfeny Eagle. *Lath. syn.*
Mansfeny. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 144.
Falco Antillarum. *Briss. av.* 1. *p.* 361.

This, which is described by Buffon, has the shape and plumage of an Eagle, differing only in size, which is not superior to that of a Falcon. Its colour is entirely brown: legs and feet very strong. Native of the Antilles or Caribbee islands, preying on small birds, snakes, lizards, &c.

SHORT-TAILED EAGLE.

Falco ecaudatus. *F. niger, alis pallidis, dorso caudaque breviore rufis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Black Eagle, with pale wings, rufous back and tail, the latter very short.
Le Bateleur. *Levaill. Ois. Afr. pl.* 7. 8.
Short-tailed Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl.* 2.

This is one of the species for which we are indebted to the indefatigable zeal of Monsieur Levaillant, who informs us that it partakes of the nature both of the Eagle and the Vulture, but is more nearly allied to the former. Its size is between that of the Sea Eagle and the Osprey, and differs from other Eagles in having the bill less

strong, the claws less curved; and the tail very short: the legs are also naked or unfeathered: the beak and claws are black; the membrane at the base of the beak yellowish; the head, neck, breast, and body beneath are all deep black, forming a fine contrast with the deep rufous of the back and tail: scapulars dusky, with a blueish grey cast in certain lights: all the small wing-coverts are of an Isabella colour; the quills black, edged outwardly with silver-grey: the irides are deep brown. The female is of paler colours, and is a fourth larger than the male. The young birds have the beak horn-coloured, with a blueish cere; the plumage brown, less deep on the head and neck; all the feathers edged with pale brown, and the feet yellowish. As they advance in age, the rufous feathers begin to appear on the head and rump, and the black ones on the belly: and it is not till the third moulting that they acquire their complete colouring.

This species is very common in the whole country of the *Hottniquas*, and along the coast of *Terra de Natal* as far as *Caffraria*. Like the Vociferous Eagle, the male and female are inseparable: they build their nest on high trees, and the females lay from three to four white eggs: they prey chiefly on dead animals; yet often attack young Antelopes and Ostriches, and lie in wait for lambs, and sheep which happen to be in a weakly state. Monsieur Levaillant has seen the female feed her young by disgorging the contents of her craw. It must therefore be confessed that this

species might without impropriety be arranged among the Vultures.

TIGER EAGLE.

Falco tigrinus. *F. fuscus subtus albus, femoribus fusco maculatis, tectricibus alarum inferioribus nigro fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*

Brown Eagle, white beneath, with the thighs spotted with brown, and the under wing-coverts banded with black.

Tiger Falcon. *Lath. syn. suppl.* 2.

Falco tigrinus. *Besek. Vog. Kurl. S.* 10. 11.

Size of the Golden Eagle, or even larger: cere blue; irides and legs yellow: head, neck and breast pale brown, but the upper parts of both black; the crown being streaked with that colour: the rest of the upper parts dull brown; quills black: greater wing-coverts black brown or paler; tail dull brown, crossed with three narrow distinct bands: beneath, from the breast, white, marked with some light brown spots on the thighs, and under part of the wings, in the manner of a tiger. Described from a male bird. Said to inhabit Courland, and to be an extremely fierce as well as beautiful bird, preying on the grous tribe, and on hares, &c.

COURLAND EAGLE.

Falco Germanicus. *F. rufo-albus, dorso alis caudaque fuscis, rectricibus fasciis quatuor pallentibus. Lath. ind. orn. suppl.*
Rufous-white Eagle, with the back, wings, and tail brown, the latter marked by four pale bars.
Der rothlichweisse Falke. *Besek. Vog. Kurl. S.* 10. 12. *a.* & 13. *b.*
Courland Falcon. *Lath. Suppl.* 2.

THIS also is said to inhabit Courland, and is rather smaller than the preceding. Its general colour is a reddish dusky white, the back, wings, and tail dull brown, the tips of the wings paler: the head, neck, and breast are spotted with brown: the feathers of the thighs brown, each feather having an oval spot at the tip of that colour: cere, irides, and legs yellow. Male and female much alike in colour, but the male about a fourth part smaller than the female.

DRANSBERG EAGLE.

Falco Glaucopis. *F. cera et pedibus semilanatis citrinis, dorso et pectore fusco, capite et cervice ex flavicante albis, striis fuscis, remigibus nigris. Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*

Eagle with the cere and half-feathered legs citron-coloured; back and breast brown, head and neck yellowish white with black streaks, and black wing-feathers.

Merrem Beytr. 2. p. 25. t. 7.

TOTAL length rather more than one foot nine inches: openings of the nostrils large and oval, and covered behind with black bristles: tongue fleshy in the middle; horny at the edges, and scarcely divided at the tip: thighs short, and beset with soft feathers: legs covered half way with woolly down: breast and back brown: on the front small crescent-shaped streaks: head and top of the neck yellowish, varied with brown: wings black: tail reddish brown above, and dull white beneath, with six black bands. Found on the mountain called *Dransberg* near Gottingen.

COMMON KITE.

Falco Milvus. *F. fusco ferrugineoque varius, capite albido fusco striato, cauda ferruginea forficata.*
Kite with brown and ferruginous variegations, whitish head streaked with brown, and ferruginous forked tail.
Falco Milvus. *F. cera flava, cauda forficata, corpore ferrugineo, capite albidiore. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Milvus. *Gesn. Aldr. Will. &c.*
Kite. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*

The Kite is so common in England as to supersede the necessity of any very particular description of its figure and manners. Its general length is something more than two feet, and its breadth five feet: the bill is two inches long, and very much bent or hooked at the end; the cere yellow, and the irides straw-coloured: the whole upper part of the body is ferruginous brown, the edges of the feathers brighter or yellower than the middle: the tail bright ferruginous: the edges both of wings and tail dusky or blackish: the head and neck are pale ash-colour, or whitish, the feathers being of a narrow or slender form on those parts, and each marked down the shaft by a dark streak: the under parts of the body are yellow-ferruginous, with longitudinal dusky spots: the legs yellow, and the claws strong and brown: the tail is forked, by which mark it is at once distinguished from every other British bird of prey.

No one can be unacquainted with the elegant appearance of this bird while sailing aloft in its

circling flight, and maintaining its equilibrium by a slight exertion of its pinions at distant intervals. During these wanderings it is meditating its prey beneath, and occasionally descends from its aerial height in order to seize some bird or other animal within its view. It principally preys on young chickens, ducks, goslings, &c. and is in consequence proscribed by the universal voice of every village in the country. Were it not for these depredations its appearance would be welcomed as the harbinger of clear skies and fine weather; for it is in such that it makes its principal excursions. It breeds in large forests, and wooded hilly countries; and its nest is said to be composed of sticks and twigs, and lined with a kind of miscellaneous assortment of wool, pieces of rope, fragments of flannel, paper, or any other articles which it happens to find on the ground. It lays two, and sometimes three eggs, which are white, roundish, and marked with dull-yellow spots.

In the days of King Henry the eighth, as appears from the observations of the celebrated Clusius, (L'Ecluse) the British metropolis itself swarmed with Kites, which were attracted by the various kind of offals thrown into the streets, and were so fearless as to take their prey in the midst of the greatest crowds, it being forbidden to kill them. Thus the Kite was as much reverenced in the streets of London in those times as the Vulture is at present in those of Grand Cairo or Alexandria. The descent of a Kite at the present day, in Cheapside or Charing-Cross, would probably at-

tract as sudden a crowd as any other unexpected phenomenon, and would doubtless be recorded in the public prints as an event of singular curiosity.

Var?

RUSSIAN KITE.

Length twenty-one inches and a half: colour pale brown, with bright chesnut head and throat: bill lead-colour, cere green; legs yellow; tail forked. Described in the Petersburg Transactions, and said to be often found at *Tanain* near *Tscbercask*.

BLACK KITE.

Falco ater. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore supra fusco-nigro, capite et subtus albidiore, cauda forficata. Lath. ind. orn.*
Blackish-brown Kite, with yellow cere and legs, head and under parts whitish, and forked tail.
Falco ater. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Black Kite. *Lath. syn.*

Smaller than the Common Kite, and of a dark blackish brown colour above, with the head, breast, and under parts whitish: bill, cere, and legs like those of the Common Kite. Native of Germany.

AUSTRIAN KITE.

Falco Austriacus. *F. cera pedibusque semilanatis flavis, capite corporeque supra castaneo, pennarum scapis nigris, rectricibus fuscis fasciis nigris, apicibus albis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Kite with cere and semiplumed legs yellow, head and body above chesnut, with the shafts of the quills black, and brown tail with black bars and white tip.

Austrian Kite. *Lath. syn.*

Size equal to that of the Common Kite: colour chesnut, the shafts of the wings being black; the belly brown-chesnut spotted with dark brown: tail even, crossed with several black bars, and tipped with white: legs and bill as in the Common Kite: fore-head and throat whitish with brown spots. Native of Austria, living principally in woods.

CARACARA KITE.

Falco Brasiliensis. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore rufo albo flavoque punctato, rectricibus fusco alboque variegatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Kite with yellow legs, rufous body, with white yellow and rufous spots, and tail varied with brown and white.

Brasilian Kite called *Caracara*. *Will. orn. p. 76.*

Mentioned by Willughby from Marcgrave's Brasil, who however does not call it a Kite, but rather a Sparrow-Hawk (Nisus). Its size is that of a Kite, and it preys on poultry. Native of Brasil.

SWALLOW-TAILED FALCON.

Falco furcatus. *F. albus, dorso alis caudaque longissima forficata purpureo-nigricantibus.*

White Falcon, with the back, wings, and very long forked tail purplish black.

Falco furcatus. *F. cera obscura, pedibus flavescentibus, corpore supra fusco subtus albido, cauda forficata longissima. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Swallow-tailed Hawk. *Catesb. Carol. 1. p. 4. pl. 4.*

This species is a native of America, and may certainly be considered as one of the most beautiful birds of the present genus. Its length is about two feet, and its proportions in the highest degree elegant: the wings very long and slender, and the tail more sharply forked in proportion than in a swallow: the back, wings, and tail are of a rich purplish black, with a gloss of changeable green; the head, neck, and whole under parts, together with the thighs, milk white, in some specimens very slightly tinctured with a cast of pale yellow: the insides of the smaller wing-feathers, towards the tips, are also white: the bill is black, rather small, curved, and extremely sharp-pointed: the legs short, and the thighs covered somewhat lower than the knees with lengthened plumes. The whole bird, on a general view, has so much the appearance of some gigantic species of Swallow, that we cannot be surprised at the assertion of the elder Scaliger, who affirms that he had seen an exotic Swallow or Swift of the size of a Buzzard,

but of the colour of a common Swallow, and no otherwise differing, except in having a hooked beak and strong claws, like those of a bird of prey.

In its manners as well as in its aspect this bird bears a resemblance to the Swallow tribe: it feeds principally on insects, which it catches in its flight, and is often observed to tear off the nests of wasps, as it glides along the trees on which they are fixed: it preys also on the smaller kind of snakes, lizards, &c.

The Count de Buffon has very properly observed, that this bird should rather be considered as a native of South than of North America, since it migrates from the latter into the former on the least approach of cold weather.

The best figure of this most elegant species hitherto given is that in Mr. Pennant's Arctic Zoology, which yet is scarce sufficiently expressive of its beautiful shape: that of Catesby is a very inferior representation.

COMMON BUZZARD.

Falco Buteo. *F. supra fusco ferrugineoque subtus albo ferrugineoque varius, cera pedibusque luteis, cauda fusco fasciata.* Buzzard varied above with brown and ferruginous, beneath with white and ferruginous, with luteous cere and legs, and tail banded with brown.

Falco Buteo. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco, abdomine pallido maculis fuscis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Common Buzzard, or Puttock. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool.*

The Buzzard, like the Kite, is so well known in England as to require no very elaborate description. Its size exceeds that of a Kite, the body being of a heavier or thicker form: its general length is about one foot eight inches, and its breadth four feet and a half: the bill is lead-colour, the cere and legs yellow: in colour the Buzzard is apt to vary considerably, but is usually of a ferruginous brown above, and yellowish white beneath, with large longitudinal brown spots and dashes: the middle of the back, as in the Kite, is covered merely with a thick white down: the larger wing-feathers are blotched internally with dull white and brown bars, and the tail is marked with cinereous and dusky, or ferruginous bars, that next the tip being broader and darker than the rest.

The Buzzard is well figured both in the folio and smaller editions of the British Zoology. It is supposed to be the most common in this country of all the Hawk tribe, breeding in woods, and usually building in some old crow's nest, which

it enlarges, and lines with wool or other soft materials: it lays two or three eggs, which, according to Mr. Pennant, are sometimes white, and sometimes spotted with yellow. It is said that if the hen be accidentally killed, the cock Buzzard will hatch and bring up the young. It is observed also that the young accompany the old birds for some time after quitting the nest; a circumstance unusual in other birds of prey, which always drive off their young as soon as they can fly. The Buzzard is a very sluggish and inactive bird, continuing perched on the same bough for the greatest part of the day, and seldom wandering from its accustomed haunt or spot. It feeds on the smaller birds, as well as on worms, frogs, and insects of various kinds.

Var.

ASH-COLOURED BUZZARD.

Rather larger than the Common Buzzard, and of an ash-coloured brown above, varied beneath with white: tail marked with numerous dusky bars. Native of North America. Perhaps this should rather be considered as a distinct species.

GREATER BUZZARD.

A trifle larger than the Common Buzzard, and of similar colour above, but beneath rufous, with oval brown spots. Native of Europe.

SPOTTED BUZZARD.

Smaller than the preceding, being of the size of a Common Buzzard: colour above the same, but more variegated with white; the smaller quills being of that colour from their middles almost to the tips; which are blackish: upper wing coverts spotted with ash-colour, and a transverse blackish bar across the wings. Native of Europe.

CREAM-COLOURED BUZZARD.

Of a dusky cream-colour or brownish buff, with a mixture of brown on the back and some bars of brown across the wing-coverts: abdomen and sides somewhat irregularly blotched with brown: tail rather shorter than in the Common Buzzard. Native of Jamaica.

SPECKLED BUZZARD.

Falco variegatus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore fusco, subtus albo fusco maculato, capite colloque albidis striis ferrugineo fuscis, tectricibus alarum albo maculatis, rectricibus albo fasciatis. Lath. ind. orn.*

Buzzard with yellow legs and brown body, white beneath, speckled with brown, head and neck whitish with ferruginous-brown streaks, and tail-feathers banded with white.

LENGTH rather more than twelve inches: shape that of the Common Buzzard: wing-coverts spotted with white: tail dark brown, crossed by several obscure white bars. Native of North America. This species seems to be described in the Arctic Zoology of Mr. Pennant under the name of Buzzardet.

AMERICAN BUZZARD.

Falco Borealis. *F. cera pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco, abdomine albo maculis hastatis nigris, cauda ferruginea fascia ad apicem nigra. Lath. ind. orn.*

Buzzard with deep yellow cere and legs, brown body, white abdomen with spear-shaped black spots, and ferruginous tail with a black bar at the tip.

SIZE of a Common Buzzard, or a trifle larger. Native of North America.

HARPY BUZZARD.

Falco rufus. *F. pedibus flavis, corpore rufo maculis longitudinalibus varo, dorso fusco, rectricibus cinereis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Rufous Buzzard with longitudinal brown spots, brown back, ash-coloured quill-feathers, and yellow legs.
La Harpaye. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 217.
Le Buzzard roux. *Briss. av.* 1. *p.* 404.

SIZE of a female Goshawk: general colour rufous, but the wing-coverts and rump brown: greater quills black, and smaller ash-colour: tail ash-colour: bill black: irides orange. Native of Germany and France, frequenting low grounds, and the banks of rivers, and preying often on fish.

BARRED-BREASTED BUZZARD.

Falco lineatus. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore fusco ferrugineo alboque vario, pectore rufo albo fasciato, rectricibus fasciis duabus albis. Lath. ind. orn.*
Buzzard with yellow cere and legs, body varied with brown, ferruginous and white, breast rufous with white bars, and tail marked with two white bars.
Barred-Breasted Buzzard. *Lath. syn.*
Red-Shouldered Falcon? *Penn. Arct. Zool.*

LENGTH twenty inches: size that of the Common Buzzard: parts above deep brown, the feathers having ferruginous margins; but the greater wing-coverts margined with white: the greater quills black, marked on the outer edge with white

spots, except toward the tip: fore part of the neck and breast rufous, with black shafts, besides which, both on the breast and belly, are interrupted white and pale-ferruginous bars: tail rather short; deep brown, with two narrow bars of dull white. Mr. Latham, in his *Index ornithologicus*, supposes this the same with the *Red-Shouldered Falcon* of Pennant, described in the Arctic Zoology. If so, the bird probably varies much in colour. Mr. Pennant describes the smaller wing-coverts as ferruginous, spotted with black, and the tail as crossed by seven white bands; the bill slender and dusky, and the legs weak. Native of North America.

HONEY-BUZZARD.

Falco apivorus. *F. fuscus, alis cinereo fasciatis, subtus albus fasciis subferrugineis transversis.*

Brown Buzzard, with cinereous bands on the wings; beneath white, with transverse subferruginous bars.

Falco apivorus. *Lin. Syst. Nat.*

La Bondreé. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 208.

Honey-Buzzard. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*

This is one of the most elegant of the British birds of prey. Its size is that of a common Buzzard, which it exceeds a few inches in length, on account of its more slender shape: the plumage above is dusky brown, the larger quill-feathers cinereous on their exterior sides, the larger coverts

crossed by a cinereous band with dusky lines, and the crown of the head ash-coloured: the under parts are white, with pretty numerous dusky-ferruginous transverse bands, consisting of so many rows of slightly lengthened spots of that colour: the tail is of a brown colour, crossed by two or three dusky bands, the spaces between each being marked by dusky lines or much narrower bars: the bill and cere are brown; the legs yellow. This bird however appears to vary considerably in the disposition of its colours, and has been seen of an uniform brown both above and below, with an ash-coloured band across the wings: the spots on the under parts are also described by some authors as longitudinal, but without any mention of their being disposed into transverse rows.

The Honey-Buzzard is considered by Willughby as a non-descript species, "*though frequent enough with us.*" It is however at present regarded as of rather rare occurrence in England. "It builds its nest, says Willughby, of small twigs, laying upon them wool, and upon the wool its eggs. We saw one that made use of an old Kite's nest to breed in, and that fed its young with the Nymphæ of Wasps: for in the nest we found the combs of wasp's nests, and in the stomachs of the young the limbs and fragments of wasp-maggots. There were in the nest only two young ones, covered with a white down, spotted with black. Their feet were of a pale yellow, their bills between the nostrils and the head white. Their craws large, in which were Lizards, Frogs, &c. In the crop of one of them

we found two Lizards entire, with their heads lying towards the mouth, as if they sought to creep out." Mr. Willughby adds, that it differs from the Common Buzzard in having a longer tail, an ash-coloured head, the irides of the eyes yellow, thicker and shorter feet, and in the broad transverse dun beds or strokes in the wings and tail, which are about three inches broad.

The most expressive figure of this bird is that in the folio edition of the British Zoology.

MOOR BUZZARD.

Falco æruginosus. *F. fuscus, vertice luteo, cera pedibusque flavis.*

Brown Buzzard, with the crown of the head luteous; the cere and legs yellow.

Falco æruginosus. *F. cera virescente, corpore griseo, vertice gula axillis pedibusque luteis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Moor Buzzard. *Will. orn. Penn. Brit. Zool. Lath. syn.*

Le Busard. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 218. *pl.* 10. *Pl. Enl.* 424.

Size smaller than that of the Falco apivorus, to which it seems extremely allied, but differs in colour, which is a deep subferruginous brown, except on the upper part of the head, which is distinguished by a large yellow-ferruginous patch, sometimes accompanied with a few scattered spots of the same colour on the upper part of the neck, and sometimes even extending in a continued bed of colour over the neck and shoulders: the bill is

black, with a yellow cere; and the legs are yellow, long, and slender. This species frequents heaths and low watery grounds, and preys upon various kinds of water-birds, as young ducks, &c. It also, according to Mr. Pennant, is a great destroyer of rabbits and fish. It makes its nest, which is said to be composed of sticks, dry sedges and leaves, in the midst of a tuft of grass or rushes. It is never observed to soar, like most other Hawks, but either to sit on the ground, or on some low bush. It is sometimes seen entirely brown, or without the least appearance of pale luteous on the head, &c.

VAR ?

This, which is described by Doctor R. Forster in the Philosophical Transactions under the name of *Falco spadiceus* or *Chocolate Falcon*, and by Mr. Pennant in the Arctic Zoology by the same title, is, according to Mr. Latham, no other than a variety of the Moor Buzzard, being merely rather smaller, and without any spot on the head. It should be observed however, that Doctor Forster describes it as *much less* than the European Moor Buzzard. The specimen described was sent from Hudson's Bay. Mr. Pennant's Chocolate-Coloured Falcon measures one foot ten inches, and is of a deep bay or chocolate-colour, but with a patch or speculum of pure white on the wings, formed by the lower exterior side of the greater quill-feathers. A farther variety has been mentioned by Mr. Latham under the title of *Placentia Falcon*, entirely

of a dusky-ferruginous colour, except a few slight dashes of white on the breast. Said to be a native of Newfoundland.

GOSHAWK.

Falco palumbarius. *F. fuscus fascia superciliari alba, subtus albus lineis transversis fuscis.*

Brown Falcon with white superciliary stripe; beneath white, with transverse brown lines.

Falco palumbarius. *F. cera nigra margine pedibusque flavis, corpore fusco, rectricibus fasciis pallidis, superciliis albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Accipiter palumbarius. *Raii. syn.* Goshawk. *Will. orn.*

L'Autour. *Buff. ois.* 1. *p.* 230. *pl.* 12. (Young.) *Pl. Enl.* 418. (full grown.)

Size similar to that of the Jerfalcon: general length nearly two feet: colour above deep brown, beneath white, marked with numerous transverse blackish bars; but, in the younger or less advanced specimens, with oblong or lengthened spots: the feathers on the thighs, as in most other Falcons, are long and large, and the tail, which considerably exceeds the length of the wings when closed, is of a brownish ash-colour, with five moderately broad, distant, dusky bars: the bill is blueish, the legs yellow, and the feet furnished with very strong claws, particularly on the back toe. The whole bird is of an elegant form, and by the old Falconers was considered as the chief of the short-winged Hawks, or such whose wings when closed do not

Grant sculp.

GOSHAWK

W. B. Sq.re London. Published by G. Kearsley Fleet Street.

reach to the end of the tail. Like some others of the Falcon tribe, the Goshawk is sometimes seen entirely white, and sometimes white, elegantly varied with brown. In both these states it may be distinguished from the white Jerfalcon by the greater length of the tail, on which may be also distinguished the traces of the distant broad bars which it exhibits in its common or general state. The Goshawk is a native of many of the middle and northern parts both of Europe and Asia, and is found in some parts of our own island; breeding in Scotland on the tops of high trees, and preying on every kind of game, &c.

VAR.

A most beautiful specimen of the Goshawk in in its white, or rather in its mixed state, answered to the following description, viz. Length nearly two feet: colour white, elegantly varied above with pale brown: the head and neck streaked with longitudinal deep-brown dashes: the breast and under parts marked down the middle of each feather with a leaf-shaped spot: the bill and feet pale yellow, the claws very strong and black, especially the hind claw.

JERFALCON.

Falco Gyrfalco. *F. fuscus, subalbido variatus, subtus albidus maculis fuscis, cauda fasciis numerosis fuscis.*
Brown Falcon with whitish variegations, beneath white with brown spots, and tail with numerous brown bars.
Falco Gyrfalco. *F. cera cærulea, pedibus luteis, corpore fusco, subtus fasciis cinereis, caudæ lateribus albis. Lin. Syst. Nat.*
Iceland Falcon. *Gent. magaz. vol. 41. p. 297.*
Le Gerfault. *Buff. ois.*
Brown Jerfalcon. *Lath. synops.*
Jerfault d'Islande. *Planches Enluminées 210.*
Jerfault de Norvege. *Planches Enluminées 462.*
White Jerfalcon. *Penn. Brit. Zool.*
White Jerfalcon. *Lath. synops.*
Falco candicans. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Le Gerfault. *Briss. ois. 1. p. 370. t. 30. f. 2.*
Gerfault blanc du pays du Nord. *Planches Enluminées 446.*

This species, by the almost unanimous consent of authors, stands at the head of the Falcons properly so called, and is considered as the boldest and most beautiful of the tribe. It is a native of the northern regions, and is found in its greatest perfection in Iceland. In size it equals, and perhaps rather exceeds the Goshawk, which it resembles in its shape, but has longer wings and shorter legs in proportion. Its general colour is brown above, in deeper and lighter variegations, and whitish beneath, with brown longitudinal spots; those on the neck and thighs, which latter are well covered with long and large feathers, being in the form of longitudinal streaks, and sometimes in

bars: the tail is crossed by numerous deeper and lighter bands, and the bill and legs are generally blueish: it is allowed however by the best informed ornithologists that this bird varies infinitely in the particular cast of its colour, which in some exhibits a considerable mixture of white in its plumage; in others so much that it might rather be described as white with brown variegations, than as brown with white ones; while in others the bird is either completely white, or slightly spotted and streaked with brown. In these varieties it is also observed that the bill and legs sometimes vary into pale yellow, though more commonly pale blue. From these changes in the plumage of the Jerfalcon seems to have arisen the wonderful discordance in the descriptions of authors; which have amounted at length to so confused an assemblage of contradictory characters as almost to set at defiance all attempts to reconcile them. The Norwegian and Swedish Jerfalcons are brown, or of the first denomination, and seem to constitute the *Falco Gyrfalco* of Linnæus. The Iceland Jerfalcons are those which afford the mixed and white varieties, and these have been often distinguished by authors, as distinct species, under the name of *Falco Icelandicus* or Iceland Falcon emphatically so called. Jerfalcons in their elegantly mixed plumage, in which the white greatly prevails, are sometimes found in Scotland, and a specimen is represented in the British Zoology of Mr. Pennant. It is observed by Monsieur Daudin, in his ornithological work, that the beak of the Jerfalcon has but a

very slight appearance of the tooth-like process on each side, so conspicuous in many of the Accipitrine tribe; but this I consider as a very uncertain criterion; since in the best and most authentic figures and descriptions of the Jerfalcon, the notch in the bill is often very conspicuous; not to mention, that Mr. Pennant in his Arctic Zoology expressly describes the upper mandible as "*sharply angulated on the lower edges.*"

GENTIL FALCON.

Falco Gentilis. *F. fuscus, ferrugineo undulatus, subtus albo-flavescens maculis subcordatis fuscis, cauda fasciis quatuor nigricantibus.*

Brown Falcon with ferruginous undulations, beneath yellowish-white with subcordate brown spots, the tail crossed by four blackish bars.

Falco gentilis. *F. cera pedibusque flavis, corpore cinereo maculis fuscis, cauda fasciis quatuor nigricantibus. Lin. Syst. Nat.*

Falco montanus ? *Raii. syn. p.* 13.

Falcon gentle. *Will. orn. p.* 79.

Gentil Falcon. *Penn. Brit. Zool. p.* 154. *pl.* 21. *Lath. syn.* 1. *p.* 61.

Faucon Gentil. *Daudin orn. p.* 102.

This is described as a degree larger than the Goshawk; with the head brown-ferruginous, marked with oblong black spots, the upper part of the body and wings brown, each feather tipped with ferruginous; the under parts whitish, with brown spots and dashes, which in the young or yearling

bird are said to be rather transverse than longitudinal; the quills dusky, barred on the outer webs with black, and on the lower part of the inner webs marked with white: the wings reach to the middle of the tail, which is alternately banded with black and ash-colour, and tipped with white: the bill is lead-coloured, and the cere yellow: the legs are of the same colour, and rather short, the thighs being well covered with feathers.

The Count de Buffon supposes this bird to be the head or representative of the Common Falcon, or in other words, the bird in its full plumage and perfection, for which reason it has obtained among Falconers the title of Falcon Gentil; but it is observed by a more modern ornithologist, Monsieur Daudin, that in this particular Buffon was mistaken or misinformed; that the present bird constitutes a really distinct species from the Common Falcon, though greatly allied to it; and that the Falconers call the Common Falcon, when in full plumage, and completely bred or trained, by the title of Falcon Gentil also; so that no stress is to be laid on this circumstance. Monsieur Sonnini also, in his improved edition of the Count de Buffon's Natural History, is of the same opinion.

The Falcon Gentil is figured on the fiftieth plate of the smaller editions of the British Zoology. I have heard it maintained, on the faith of an eminent Falconer, that the Falcon Gentil is in reality no other than a young or incomplete *Goshawk*.

COMMON FALCON.

Falco communis. *F. fuscus rufo undulatus, cauda subnigro fasciata, pectore abdomineque albidis fusco maculatis.*
Brown Falcon, with rufous undulations, the tail marked by dusky bars; the breast and belly whitish, with dusky spots.
Falco communis. *F. rostro cærulescente, cera, iridibus pedibusque luteis, corpore fusco, pennarum margine rufo, rectricibus fasciis saturatioribus. Lath. ind. orn.*
Falco communis. *Lin. Syst. Nat. Gmel.*
Common Falcon. *Lath. syn.*
Le Faucon. *Buff. ois. Pl. Enl.* 470. 421. 469.

The standard or representative of the Common Falcon is described as of the size of a middling Hen, and of the length of eighteen inches: the general colour brown, the feathers having rufous edges, and the tail transversly banded with lighter and darker brown: the bill blueish, with a yellow cere, and on each cheek a large brown patch or spot, which is said often to remain through all the varieties: the legs yellow* and strong, and the thighs, as in most other birds of this tribe, well clothed with lengthened feathers.

It is well known that the birds of the genus Falco vary more than most others in respect to size and plumage, according to their age and sex.

The Common Falcon appears to admit of nu-

* Buffon affirms that the feet and cere are greenish, and that those birds which have them yellow are considered by the Falconers as of a very inferior kind.

merous varieties, and these, having often been described as distinct species, have caused much confusion in ornithological works.

The Falcon is a native of the temperate and colder parts of Europe, frequenting rocky, mountainous, and wooded regions, and preying on various birds as well as on the smaller quadrupeds; generally darting perpendicularly downwards with great violence on its victim. It builds in the hollows of rocks exposed to the South; usually laying its eggs about the close of winter, or very early in the spring: these are often four in number, and are white, spotted with brown. So rapid is said to be the growth of the young, that in the space of three months they equal the parents in size.

The Varieties of this species are thus summed up by Monsieur Daudin, in his work entitled *Traité elementaire et complet d'Ornithologie.*

1. *White-Headed Falcon.* With the head, neck, and breast white, with small brown spots.

2. *White Falcon.* Entirely white, except a few indistinct yellowish spots.

3. *Black Falcon.* Upper part of head and back blackish-brown; under parts of the bird reddish-brown, with a black spot at the tip of each feather: wings and tail blackish-brown, crossed beneath with paler bars: legs deep lead-colour.

4. *Spotted Falcon.* Wings spotted with white: under parts white, spotted with brown: bill lead-colour; legs yellow.

5. *Brown Falcon.* Body brown, with deeper spots above, and white with brown spots beneath, those on the breast lanceolate.

6. *Reddish Falcon.* Differs from the Common Falcon in having black and reddish spots.

7. *Red Indian Falcon.* Cinereous-brown above; wing-coverts and under parts reddish-fulvous: tail marked with semicircular black and ash-coloured bars.

8. *Italian Falcon.* Head and neck tawny, with ferruginous lines or streaks: breast brown, with ferruginous specks: end of the wings marked with round white spots: legs yellow.

9. *Sacre Falcon.* This, which Buffon conceives to be a variety of the Lanner, Monsieur Daudin, with Monsieur Brisson, considers as a variety of the Common Falcon. Length two feet: bill and cere blue: back, wing-coverts, and breast, spotted with brown: tail marked with crescent-shaped spots: legs blue. To this, as a farther variety, should be added the *American Sacre* of Mr. Pennant, measuring twenty-two inches in length, and three feet in breadth: irides yellow: head whitish, with longitudinal brown streaks: bill and

cere blue: throat white spotted with brown: parts above brown, the feathers spotted and edged with ferruginous; the spots not touching the shafts: beneath white, with longitudinal dark-brown spots: quill-feathers black-brown; margins and ends of the prime oris white, transversly spotted within with pale ferruginous: smaller quill-feathers marked with round spots on the outside. Inhabits the northern parts of America, and is called at Hudson's Bay by the name of *Speckled Partridge-Hawk*.

10. *Spotted Falcon.* This, which is described and figured in the British Zoology, is of the size of a Buzzard, with a black bill, and yellow cere and legs: irides pale yellow: crown and hind part of the neck white, spotted with light reddish brown: back and scapulars of the same colour, edged with white: quill-feathers dusky, edged with ash-colour: under side of the neck, breast, belly, and thighs, white; the first, as well as the beginning of the breast, marked with a few rusty spots: rump white: middle tail-feathers marked by pretty numerous bars of white and deep brown; the rest with a lighter and darker brown: legs very strong. Two of these birds were shot near Longnor in Shropshire.